ONTARIO
PARKS

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater
Makobe-Grays River
Obabika River
Solace
Sturgeon River

Preliminary Park Management Plan

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Cover photo: *Chee-bay-jing (Maple Mountain) in Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park*

The Ojibwe term "Chee-bay-jing" refers to the place where the sun sets—where life ends and the spirit dwells. This site is sacred to the First Nation communities of the Temagami area.

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Dear Sir/Madam:

I am pleased to approve the *Temagami Area Provincial Parks Preliminary Park Management Plan* as the proposed strategy for the protection and management of the five parks in this significant area. The five parks are: Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater (wilderness class) Makobe-Grays River, Obabika River, Solace, and Sturgeon River (all waterway class parks). This preliminary plan reflects the Ministry of Natural Resources' (MNR) intent to protect heritage features and values while maintaining and enhancing high quality opportunities for outdoor recreation and heritage appreciation for the residents of Ontario and visitors to the Province.

This preliminary plan provides details on how MNR proposes to guide and direct the resource stewardship, operations and development of the five parks. The plan frames the management of these significant areas according to their designation, goals and objectives. The preliminary plan also provides a summary of the consultation that has occurred throughout the planning process.

Following consultation on this preliminary plan and its proposals, public input will be taken into consideration and an approved plan will be completed. The approved plan will guide future resource stewardship, operations and development of the five parks.

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to all those who participated in the planning process.

Yours truly,

A. Ireland-Smith

Adair Ireland-Smith
Managing Director
Ontario Parks

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Statement of Environmental Values and Environmental Bill of Rights

In 1994, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) finalized its *Statement of Environmental Values* (SEV) under the *Environmental Bill of Rights* (EBR). The SEV is a document that describes how the purposes of the EBR are to be considered whenever decisions are made in the Ministry that might significantly affect the environment. This includes decisions made as a result of the park management planning process.

The primary purpose of the EBR is to protect, conserve and, where reasonable, restore the integrity of the environment. From the Ministry's perspective, that broad statement of purpose translates into four objectives in its SEV:

- to ensure the long-term health of ecosystems by protecting and conserving our valuable soil, aquatic resources, forest and wildlife resources as well as their biological foundations;
- to ensure the continuing availability of natural resources for the long-term benefit of the people of Ontario;
- to protect natural heritage and biological features of provincial significance; and
- to protect human life, the resource base, and physical property from the threats of forest fires, floods and erosion.

The Ministry's SEV has been considered throughout the planning process. The Temagami Area Provincial Parks Management Plan will further the objectives of managing Ontario's resources on an environmentally sustainable basis.

Aboriginal Context

For more than 6,000 years, aboriginal inhabitants have lived in the Temagami area, travelling by way of an interconnected system of winter and summer trails and portages. Temagami lies within Daki Menan, the ancestral homeland of the Teme-Augama Anishnabai—the deepwater people. Many sacred sites are found within the area, and the landscape of Temagami continues to hold great cultural, spiritual and economic significance for First Nation communities. Present-day First Nation communities include Bear Island on Lake Temagami and Matachewan on the Montreal River. A strong tradition of stewardship continues today through ceremonies, culture and language, and the spirit of the land is cared for by the original keepers of the land.

Settlement of the Temagami Land Claim is entirely separate from the Temagami Integrated Planning process, but there is some overlap between recreation management on unregulated Crown land and the Crown lands which may form part of the land claim settlement.

The Temagami Land Claim settlement process is proposing the creation of a waterway class provincial park on certain portions of the mainland of Lake Temagami. Those portions of the

mainland that are identified for park creation in the proposed settlement agreement can be converted to park status, following whatever requirements may be necessary once there is final agreement. Management planning for this proposed park will be a separate process.

It is mutually understood that any communications and cooperation between the Temagami or Matachewan Aboriginal communities and MNR for planning and operations purposes, as part of Temagami Integrated Planning, are undertaken without prejudice to any ongoing or future discussions or negotiations between the government of Ontario and these Aboriginal communities.

Nothing in this plan shall be construed so as to abrogate or derogate from the protection provided for the existing Aboriginal or treaty rights of the Aboriginal people of Canada as recognized and affirmed in section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

SECTION I: TEMAGAMI INTEGRATED PLANNING PROCESS

BACKGROUND

The Temagami area, located 100 km north of North Bay, covers approximately 650,000 hectares of varied and rugged terrain. Much of the area is relatively remote, offering solitude and challenge for those seeking a backcountry recreation experience.

The Temagami area is renowned for its rugged landscape as well as its significant natural, cultural and recreational resources. Temagami has been a tourist destination for over a century, and with over 2,400 kilometers of interconnecting canoe routes and portage trails it is considered one of North America's premier canoeing destinations. Temagami encompasses numerous lakes and beaches, rivers, rapids and waterfalls, rolling hills, rock outcrops, glacial features, steep cliffs and occasional canyons. These all combine to provide a rich diversity of rugged and scenic landscapes and offer opportunities for high quality backcountry travel and wilderness recreation.

Popular summer activities include canoeing, camping, swimming, boating, fishing and wildlife viewing. In winter, the Temagami area is highly regarded as a destination for snowmobiling, dog sledding, snowshoeing and ice fishing. Hunting is another popular recreational activity that takes place from late summer into early winter.

The area attracts local residents as well as visitors from provincial, national and international markets. Recreational use is quite high, with a 1994 survey estimating over 60,000 visitor days of wilderness canoeing and other backcountry use. Use is expected to increase with growing interest in adventure travel and relatively accessible wilderness experiences. The majority of travel into the core parks and conservation reserves occurs from Crown land access points that are a considerable distance away from the protected areas. Often, recreational users travel in and out of parks, CRs and Crown land continuously, unaware of the land use designations they cross.

Five provincial parks covering 104,248 hectares lie in the western part of Temagami. Surrounding the parks are eight conservation reserves which make up an additional 42,836 hectares of protected area. The remaining land base subject to the Temagami Integrated Planning (TIP) process consists of unregulated Crown lands.

Until the early 1990s, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) played an active role in maintenance of Temagami's recreational land base, including campsites, portages and unofficial camping areas, making use of programs such as the Ontario Ranger program to provide staff and resources to enable such things as canoe route, portage and campsite maintenance to occur.

Changing government priorities and a refocusing by MNR on its core business led to discontinuance of the maintenance program by the provincial government in the early 1990s. The shortfall in recreational maintenance was recognized in the approved *Temagami Land Use Plan* in its paper The Temagami Recreation Area Strategy. Since that time, some tourism operations, youth camps and other users have undertaken some maintenance to those selected canoe routes and campsites on Crown Land of which they make the most use. In addition Ontario Parks commenced the operation and active

management of the five provincial parks covered in this planning process in 2004. However, the lack of maintenance and high concentration of use in the more accessible areas of Crown land and conservation reserve have caused campsite conditions to deteriorate.

The 2005 *Temagami Integrated Planning: Background Information* document, prepared as part of this planning process, provides a description of the natural, geographical and cultural environments that make up the Temagami Area.

AN INTEGRATED PLANNING PROCESS

Major land use decisions and management direction for the Temagami area are outlined in the 1997 *Temagami Land Use Plan (TLUP)*. This document reaffirmed Temagami's existing provincial parks and identified four primary land use zones for the entire Temagami area: Protected Areas, Special Management Areas, Integrated Management Areas, and Developed Areas. These four types of zones are subdivided into 59 specific management areas. The *TLUP* continues to provide the overall direction for the management and use of natural resources within each specific management area.

The *Temagami Land Use Plan* provides direction to develop management plans for the provincial parks and protected areas (now conservation reserves). In addition, the *TLUP* provides direction to develop a plan to manage the increasing recreational use of the area's unregulated Crown lands (i.e., not regulated as a provincial park or conservation reserve). The intent of this planning process is to follow through on these commitments from the 1997 *Temagami Land Use Plan*.

The Temagami Integrated Planning (TIP) project is not about making changes to the existing *TLUP*; rather, it will implement aspects of the plan. TIP will neither create new protected areas, nor reduce or expand any of the existing protected areas.

To ensure a consistent planning approach, the following three components are integrated into one overall planning process:

1) Management planning for the five provincial parks (wilderness and waterway)
2) Management planning for the eight conservation reserves physically connected to the parks
3) Development of a Crown Land Recreation Plan for the Temagami area

All three components are strongly interrelated. The integrated planning process explores the ecological, social and recreational linkages between the interconnecting parks, conservation reserves and Crown land. The integrated process aims to provide a seamless recreational experience for individuals who travel across the three different land use designations.

The TIP process will provide management direction and outline the management intent for each of the five parks, eight CRs and adjoining Crown land. Resource management planning for the parks and CRs will be carried out to ensure that ecological integrity is maintained. Refer to Figure 1 for a map of the planning area and three planning components.

Provincial Parks

Provincial parks are administered under the *Provincial Parks Act*.[1] Provincial parks covered by TIP fall into two of six classes of parks within the Ontario Provincial Park System—Wilderness and Waterway. *Wilderness* parks are substantial areas where the forces of nature are permitted to function freely and where visitors travel by non-mechanized means and experience expansive solitude, challenge and personal integration with nature. *Waterway* parks incorporate outstanding recreational water routes with representative natural features and historical resources to provide high quality recreational and educational experiences. The following five provincial parks are included in the TIP process:

- Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park (Wilderness)
- Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park (Waterway)
- Obabika River Provincial Park (Waterway)
- Solace Provincial Park (Waterway)
- Sturgeon River Provincial Park (Waterway)

Conservation Reserves

Conservation reserves (CRs) are protected areas regulated under the *Public Lands Act*.[1] They complement provincial parks in protecting representative life and earth science areas and special landscapes. CRs protect natural heritage features and values while allowing a range of traditional activities to continue. The following eight conservation reserves are included in the TIP process:

- Bob Lake Conservation Reserve (CR44)
- East Lady Evelyn Lake Conservation Reserve (CR 32)
- Jim Edwards Lake Conservation Reserve (CR 52)
- Makobe Grays Ice Margin Conservation Reserve (C 1608)
- North Yorston Conservation Reserve (CR 53)
- Pinetorch Lake Conservation Reserve (CR 50)
- Smith Lake Conservation Reserve (CR 55)
- Sugar Lake Conservation Reserve (CR 33)

Crown Lands in the Temagami Area

The third component of this integrated process is the development of a recreation plan for all unregulated Crown lands covered under the *Temagami Land Use Plan*. Due to the complex patterns of recreational use between the parks, CRs and adjacent Crown lands, the development of the Temagami Crown Land Recreation Plan will be integrated into the protected areas planning process. This will ensure that management direction for recreation on unregulated Crown land is consistent with planning for the five provincial parks and eight CRs. The Temagami Crown land recreation plan will help to achieve a number of objectives within the *TLUP*. The Temagami Crown land recreation plan will examine only recreational activities that occur on unregulated Crown land in the area. Other resource management activities which occur on the same land base are addressed in the *TLUP*. For example, forestry is an activity permitted or prohibited in

[1] The new *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act*, 2006 received Royal assent on June 20, 2006. When the new legislation is proclaimed, it will replace the current legislation. This document makes reference to the current legislation however future management will be directed by the new legislation for provincial parks and conservation reserves once it is proclaimed.

accordance with the land use plan and specifically planned and approved through the development of forest management plans.

What Areas Are Not Covered In The Planning Process?

Scattered across the Temagami area are an additional nine conservation reserves and two provincial parks which are not included in this planning process. These protected areas are not physically connected to the protected areas in this process. The management of these Conservation Reserves will be guided by individual *Statements of Conservation Interest*. The conservation reserves referred to are: CR3a Matabitchuan River, CR4a South Temiskaming Shoreline, CR5 Ottertail Creek, CR9 Rabbit Lake West, CR15 Cliff Lake, CR17 White Bear Forest, CR31b Indian Bay South, CR40a Narrows Island and CR40b Temagami Island North. Two provincial parks, Finlayson Point and W.J.B Greenwood are not included in integrated planning and have an approved park management plan and interim management statement respectively. One other park and a park addition lie outside of the planning area; Temagami River Provincial Park and Sturgeon River Provincial Park Additions were recommended in the 1999 *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy*. These parks are outside of the Temagami Integrated Planning area and management of these parks will be guided by Interim Management Statements and *Ontario's Living Legacy* policies.

The Temagami Land Claim is entirely separate from the integrated planning process, but there are some overlapping issues between recreation management on unregulated Crown land and the Crown lands which will form part of the proposed Indian Reserve in the land claim settlement.

Integration with Other Plans within TIP

The *Temagami Area Provincial Parks Preliminary Park Management Plan* specifically addresses a range of issues which have been identified as affecting the five parks within the Temagami Integrated Planning area.

The management plan for the eight conservation reserves and the Crown Land Recreation plan were developed at the same time as this plan was developed. Whenever possible, implementation of this plan will occur in a manner which fully considers and complements the management direction included for these other two planning components.

FIGURE 1: COMPONENTS WITHIN THE TEMAGAMI INTEGRATED PLANNING AREA

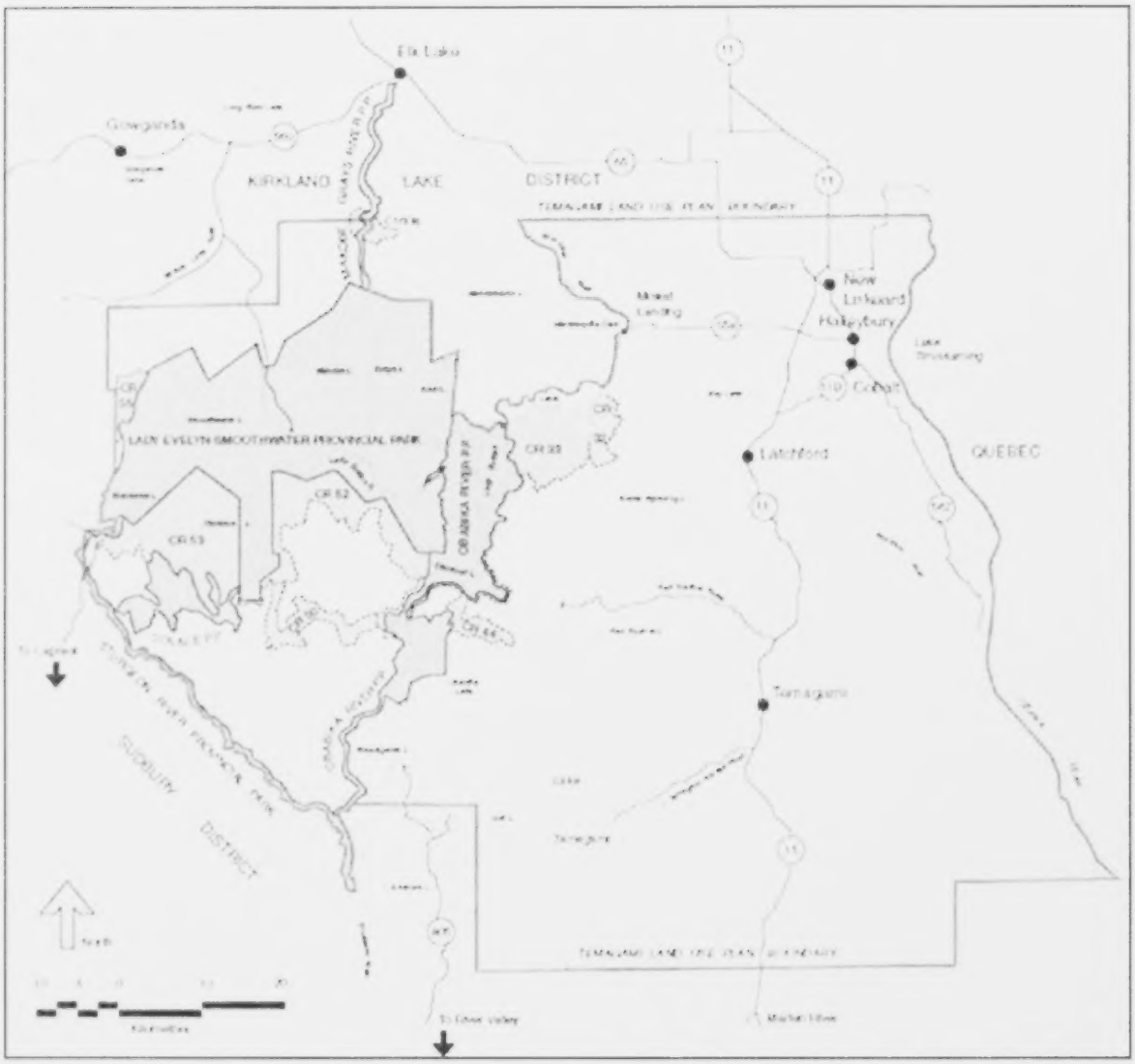
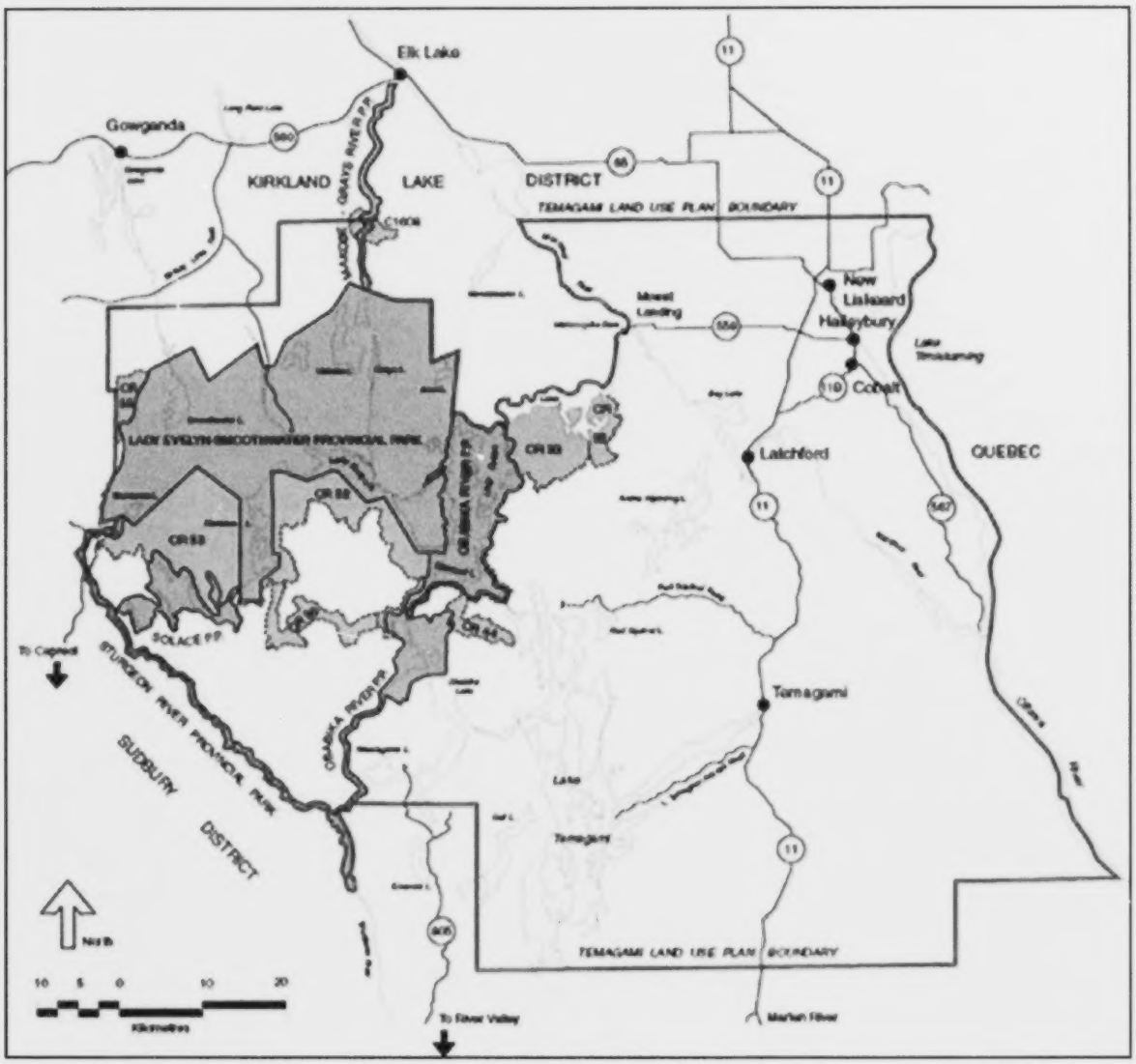


FIGURE 1: COMPONENTS WITHIN THE TEMAGAMI INTEGRATED PLANNING AREA



SECTION II: PRELIMINARY PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Temagami area is renowned for its rugged landscape and significant natural, cultural and recreational resources. Approximately one sixth of Temagami's land base (104,248 hectares) has been regulated as wilderness or waterway provincial parks. Eight conservation reserves abut the parks and offer an additional 42,836 hectares of protected area. From a recreational perspective, the Temagami area has been a canoeing destination for over a century, and offers over 2,400 kilometres of canoe routes which lie within parks, conservation reserves and on Crown land.

The majority of travel into the wilderness and waterway parks occurs from access points a considerable distance away. Many canoe routes start or finish well outside of park boundaries on adjacent Crown lands.

The five parks became operational in 2004 with the introduction of interior overnight camping fees and the hiring of interior wardens to undertake maintenance, education and compliance work along canoe routes. Fees collected cover the costs of maintaining portages, campsites, privies and overall compliance throughout all five parks.

The five parks share a common theme in that they provide remote wilderness experiences. The parks have minimal facilities and staffing assigned to them. The intent of the management plan is to manage visitor use, protect significant natural and cultural resources, and ensure that park operations are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.

2.0 PROVINCIAL PARK PLANNING CONTEXT

Once approved, the final plan will guide the protection and management of resources, visitor use and overall development within the parks. Development of this plan fulfils specific commitments made within the *Temagami Land Use Plan* as well as provincial park policies.

This preliminary plan is based upon the Terms of Reference, Background Information and Management Options documents, as well as input received through consultation at each stage of the planning process.

For ease of review, this Preliminary Park Management Plan is worded in the style of an *approved* management plan. Note, however, that this document is a proposed plan and all aspects of it are subject to comment and review.

Based upon input received through consultation for the Preliminary Park Management Plan, Ontario Parks will prepare, approve and distribute the Approved Management Plan for the five Temagami area parks.

The preliminary park management plan provides policy direction for the management of the five parks which are part of the Temagami Integrated Planning (TIP) process. The

five parks are: Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater (Wilderness class), Makobe-Grays River, Obabika River, Solace, and Sturgeon River (all Waterway class parks).

Typically, management plans are developed for individual parks. In this case, the park management plan is combined for all five parks since they are physically connected to each other and share similar patterns of use. This plan format is termed a "parent plan".

The management plan sets the direction for the zoning, management and operation within the five parks. The plan will be for a 20-year period. Every 10 years, or as required, the plan will be assessed to determine if an amendment to the plan is required. It serves as a working guide on which to base sound management actions into the future. While this plan provides overall direction for management, specific actions will be further developed in subsequent implementation plans.

The management direction contained in the approved plan will be reflected through amendments of the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas, which is MNR's repository of current, area-specific land use policies for Crown lands in the central part of Ontario. It identifies the basic land use intent and permitted uses for each of the five provincial parks.

2.1 Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Wilderness Park

The Lady Evelyn River was first designated as a Wild River (now Waterway) class park in 1973. It was expanded to its present size and designated a Wilderness class park in 1983. The park's rugged topography encompasses many high ridges such as Maple Mountain and Ishpatina Ridge—the highest point in Ontario. The park contains significant geological, biological and cultural features. The park includes the only two lakes-of-origin of the endangered Aurora trout, a species-at-risk which is considered provincially significant.

Maple Mountain is known as a place of great spiritual significance for Temagami's First Nation communities. The earth and life science features of this high ridge are regionally significant.

2.2 Four Adjoining Waterway Parks: Makobe-Grays River, Obabika River, Solace, and Sturgeon River Provincial Parks

The Makobe River flows northward from headwaters within the wilderness park. To the west, Solace Provincial Park encompasses a chain of lakes. To the east and south, Obabika River Provincial Park includes a number of large lakes and the Obabika River. It also contains old growth pine forests and a significant bog area. To the southwest, the Sturgeon River flows from areas within, and to the west of, Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater.

The provincially significant Obabika Lake red and white pine forest contains a diverse collection of old growth forest communities on a variety of landforms and soils in a relatively undisturbed area.

Other significant sites within the five parks are outlined in the previously released *Temagami Integrated Planning: Background Information* document.

3.0 PARK CLASSIFICATION

Ontario's provincial parks are organized into broad categories or *classes*, each of which has particular purposes and characteristics. All of Ontario's provincial parks fall into one of six classes: wilderness, nature reserve, historical, natural environment, waterway or recreation. Each class contributes differently towards the provincial park system while collectively ensuring that the province's natural, cultural and recreational environments are protected.

Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park is a *wilderness* class park. Wilderness parks protect large areas where the forces of nature can function freely and where visitors travel by non-mechanized means and experience solitude, challenge and personal integration with nature.

The four adjacent provincial parks included in this planning process—Makobe-Grays River, Obabika River, Solace, and Sturgeon River—are all *waterway* class parks. Waterway parks protect recreational water routes and representative and significant terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and associated natural and cultural features and to provide high quality recreational and educational experiences.

4.0 PROVINCIAL PARKS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The **overall goal** of Ontario Parks is to provide a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities and to protect provincially significant natural, cultural and recreational environments in a system of provincial parks.

There are **four objectives** which provide specific direction for the management of the park system.

- ***Protection:*** to protect provincially significant elements of the natural and cultural landscape of Ontario.
- ***Recreation:*** to provide Provincial Park outdoor recreation opportunities ranging from high-intensity day-use to low-intensity wilderness experiences.
- ***Heritage Appreciation:*** to provide opportunities for exploration and appreciation of the outdoor natural and cultural heritage of Ontario.
- ***Tourism:*** to provide Ontario's residents and out-of-province visitors with opportunities to discover and experience the distinctive regions of the province.

Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park is one of eight wilderness class parks within the province. It meets the wilderness class target for Ecoregion 4E and plays an important role in the achievement of wilderness targets for the provincial parks system. Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater fits into this system by protecting an outstanding wilderness landscape, natural features and cultural resources, and by providing high quality recreational and educational experiences.

Similarly, the four adjoining waterway parks protect a range of resources as well as providing high quality recreational and educational experiences. They offer a physical link with the core wilderness park area as well as a continuation of the backcountry experience.

5.0 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

A number of significant issues were identified throughout the Temagami Integrated Planning process. Some issues are specific to the five provincial parks while others also pertain to the adjacent conservation reserves and to recreational use of unregulated Crown lands throughout the Temagami area.

5.1 Motorized Access and Use

Motorized access into the wilderness park, and to a lesser extent in the waterway parks, is one of the key issues of this integrated planning process.

Traditionally, users of the park landscape have accessed the area by a variety of motorized means: motor vehicles, ski- and float-equipped aircraft, motor boats, snowmobiles and, more recently, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs).

Aircraft: Access by floatplane in summer and ski-equipped aircraft in winter has been a long-standing use in northern Ontario. In the Temagami area private and commercial aircraft are used for accessing canoe routes and commercial outpost camps, fishing and sight-seeing. Mechanized intrusions and noise may impact on the wilderness experience of park visitors. While some backcountry canoeists are concerned about the intrusion of aircraft and associated impacts on their wilderness experience, others rely on aircraft to access or exit from their canoe trips through the parks or adjacent Crown lands.

The status quo situation of unrestricted aircraft landings in Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater is not in keeping with the park's wilderness designation, which is intended to provide a high level of environmental protection. Wilderness class parks also provide an opportunity for visitors to experience remote wilderness landscapes free of contact with motorized vehicles, including aircraft.

Motor boats: Motorboat use in the wilderness park is concentrated predominantly in the following water bodies: Smoothwater, Makobe, Banks, Trethewey, Grays, Tupper, Hobart and Anvil lakes and portions of the Lady Evelyn River. Motor boat use is currently limited by the relative inaccessibility of the park and the difficulty in accessing various lakes by motor boat. The unrestricted use of motorboats in Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater is inconsistent with provincial policy for wilderness class parks. While motor boat use can diminish the remote wilderness experience for some users, there is a need to accommodate motorized use in specific areas.

Motor vehicles, snowmobiles, ATVs: Concerns have been raised about the loss of access opportunities; however, motorized travel can create environmental impacts and reduces the wilderness experience sought by other visitors. Provincial policy for wilderness class parks permits motorized access in access zones only.

Existing snowmobile trail through Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater: MNR gave authorization for a local snowmobile trail in 1990 pending a decision to be made through park planning. The trail lies east of Ishpatina Ridge, following a series of lakes and creeks connected by canoe portages. There are concerns about the environmental and aesthetic impacts of the continued use of the trail. Similarly, there are concerns about restricting opportunities for winter recreational access to the area and the resulting impacts to the area economy. There is the potential to reroute the trail to the west of the park in the future.

5.2 Former Liskeard Lumber Road through Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater

A 17-kilometre segment of former forest access road runs through the centre of the wilderness park. Decommissioned in 1994, it has remained open for public recreational use. MNR allowed *interim* recreational use of this un-maintained road from mid-September to mid-June each year. From June 15 to Sept.15 each year, a gate 10 kilometers inside the park, near the bridge crossing the North Lady Evelyn River, restricts road access further south through the park during the peak summer season. [2] A second bridge near the park's south boundary has deteriorated and is no longer passable.

The road extends south of the park through Jim Edwards Conservation Reserve to the Wakimika Gate, which is permanently closed to prevent access to the Red Squirrel Road system[3].

Concerns arise over the access by motor vehicles and ATVs into a wilderness park. Many local users are concerned about the loss of access to areas to which they have previously travelled by motorized means. The future of the road is to be decided during the park management planning process[4].

5.3 Boat Caches

Boat caching has occurred within the five parks by both private individuals and tourist outfitters to simplify access to remote lakes without direct motor vehicle access. Cached boats enable anglers to walk or fly in, carrying only a small motor or paddles.

Issues revolve around the appropriateness of boat caches, particularly in the wilderness park. Concerns range from possible environmental and aesthetic impacts within the parks versus the needs of existing anglers in accessing remote lakes.

Consideration must also be given to the potential introduction of invasive species into park water bodies through the ongoing transport of boats and gear to new waters. In some instances, managed boat caches may be considered more prudent than the transfer of boats between water bodies.

5.4 Protection of Natural, Cultural and Recreational Resources

Concerns include the need to protect the features for which the parks were originally created.

First Nation communities as well as area stakeholders are interested in protecting the Temagami area's cultural heritage. This includes the protection of pre- and post-contact sites, sacred places and areas of traditional use such as hunting and gathering sites. Concern for the aboriginal way of life extends to the future, with a need for enhanced economic opportunities within the recreation sector.

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[2] This restriction is stipulated in *An Environmental Assessment for Primary Access Roads in the Latchford Crown Management Unit* (Red Squirrel Road and Pinetorch Corridor). OMNR, 1988

[3] Ibid

[4] *Temagami Land Use Plan*, OMNR 1997.

The role of the parks within the recreational landscape of Temagami was acknowledged, as was the need to ensure the sustainable use of backcountry recreational resources such as campsites, portages, trails and access points. The current level of degradation of campsites and portages in some areas, as well as garbage and human waste, is identified as a concern.

A number of issues deal with the ecological restoration of fisheries, aquatic habitats and acid-stressed lakes within the parks. There is a need to monitor angling pressures and maintain healthy, self-sustaining native fish populations. There is also an interest in maintaining angling opportunities which can sustain continued public demand.

The ecological integrity of the parks' terrestrial resources is also of interest. This includes the removal and rehabilitation of old resource extraction road networks within parks as well as the restoration of altered forest stands and plantations within the parks. The need for a fire management strategy for the wilderness park was also identified.

Throughout public consultation, a key topic was the need for further information, through research, inventory and monitoring, to aid in the decision-making about park management issues. Parks also play a role as benchmark sites for future research.

Providing visitors with information and educational materials promoting the wise use of Temagami's landscape was seen as an important tool in protecting the area's natural, cultural and recreational resources.

5.5 User Conflicts

Part of the appeal of the Temagami landscape—both inside and outside of the parks—is its semi-remote wilderness setting. Certain canoe routes and lakes, however, are heavily used; this leads to conflicts amongst users, whether between motorized and non-motorized, or amongst groups who are undertaking the same mode of travel.

Some conflicts arise due to the number or size of parties travelling through an area. In other instances, the presence of motorized transport diminishes the wilderness experience for some visitors. To some, there is a perception that all of the Temagami area is a park, or designated as "wilderness", creating an expectation that may not be met during their backcountry experience.

The lack of sound backcountry practices by some visitors has resulted in environmental degradation of campsites, garbage and human waste issues.

Through consultation some respondents have raised the need for a visitor distribution system to alleviate crowding in some areas while directing some of this use to more remote areas. Others are completely opposed to any restrictions or regulation of where they plan their trips.

A topic of common concern is the need to promote a wilderness ethic and encourage low-impact camping techniques among users through information, education and enforcement. Whatever approaches may be taken within the parks, there is a need to integrate this system with recreational use in conservation reserves and on Crown land.

5.6 Phase-Out of Private Recreational Land Use Permits

The existing provincial park policy dealing with the expiration or phasing out of private recreational land use permits (LUPs) has been a concern raised during the planning process. Under provincial policy for wilderness and waterway class parks *regulated prior to* the 1999 *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy,* all forms of existing tenure issued by the Crown for private use, such as land use permits, licenses of occupation and leases, will be phased out by January 1, 2010. Changes to broader provincial policy are not within the scope of this planning project.

6.0 PROVINCIAL PARK BOUNDARIES

Four of the five parks lie within the Temagami Area of MNR's North Bay District. To the north, Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park is located within Kirkland Lake District. To the west, Sturgeon River Provincial Park forms the boundary between Sudbury and North Bay MNR districts but lies within North Bay District.

As part of the Temagami Integrated Planning (TIP) process, Ontario Parks will work closely with area MNR district offices to protect significant natural and cultural features outside park boundaries and to enhance the backcountry recreational experience throughout the entire area. This will include ongoing cooperation in the integration of backcountry maintenance as well as contributing in the forest management planning process, annual work schedules and resource management plan reviews.

Key details about the individual park boundaries are outlined below. Further information can be obtained from the 2005 *Background Information* document.

- *Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park:* 72,400 hectares, regulated 1983, O. Reg. 343/83
- *Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park:* 1,427 hectares, regulated 1985, O. Reg. 45/85
- *Obabika River Provincial Park:* 20,520 hectares, regulated in 1988, amended in 1996, O. Reg. 52/97
- *Solace Provincial Park:* 5,943 hectares, regulated 1988, O. Reg. 256/89
- *Sturgeon River Provincial Park:* 3,350 hectares, regulated 1985, O. Reg. 256/89

Park management planning policies apply only to the area within the regulated boundary of a park. Within the park boundary, the protection of park values and features will be achieved through appropriate zoning, control of land use and activities, visitor education, research, and monitoring of ecological impacts.

7.0 ZONING

Just as there are different ***classes*** of parks to serve different purposes, there is also a range of possible ***zones*** that may be designated within a given class of park to further delineate the level of protection or use that may be permitted, based on the natural, cultural and recreational features within the park.

Zoning allocates lands and waters based on their protection requirements and potential for recreation. Zones provide a range of opportunities for recreation, heritage

appreciation and education while maintaining the integrity of the resources upon which recreation opportunities are based.

Zoning recognizes that visitors do not use all resources in the same way and that not all activities are appropriate everywhere. For example, an area with provincially significant vegetation or wildlife features may be damaged by high-intensity recreation activities. Therefore a nature reserve zone designation may be chosen which restricts uses to low-impact recreation. Policies related to permitted uses and development in each zone serve as guidelines for park management planning.

There are six possible zone types that apply to the park management planning process. The types of zone available in a particular park class are based on the objectives of that class. Not all classes of parks have all types of zones.

7.1 Zone Types within the Temagami Backcountry Parks

Four zone types have been designated for the wilderness and waterway parks within this management plan: Wilderness, Nature Reserve, Access and Natural Environment. Note that Natural Environment zones are found only in the waterway parks. No Historical zones have been identified at this time but may be included in the future as required.

Wilderness Zones include wilderness landscapes of appropriate size and integrity which protect significant natural and cultural features and are suitable for wilderness experiences. They support back-country recreation such as canoeing or hiking. Development is limited to wilderness campsites, portages, trails and signs necessary for route identification. Wilderness campsites (canoe- or hike-in) are established at a very low density and offer limited facilities such as designated fireplaces and pit privies, in keeping with the character of the landscape which the zone protects.

Resource management policies are directed where possible toward achieving minimum human intervention and the maintenance of evolving natural succession.

Nature Reserve Zones protect provincially significant earth and life science features which require management distinct from that in adjacent zones, and permit minimal development. Development is generally restricted to trails, necessary signs, interpretive facilities (where warranted) and temporary facilities for research and management.

Natural Environment Zones include natural landscapes which permit the minimum level of development required to support low-intensity recreational activities. Development is generally limited to backcountry campsites, portages, necessary signs and minimal self-use interpretive facilities.

Resource management policies for natural environment zones may be more permissive than those for wilderness and nature reserve zones in allowing human intervention to maintain or improve aesthetics, wildlife habitat, etc.

Access Zones serve as staging areas where minimum facilities support use and access to nature reserve or wilderness zones and natural environment zones. Access zones provide, and regulate, use in areas of a park geared towards more extensive recreation. Development is generally limited to roads, visitor control structures and group campgrounds. There may be limited orientation, interpretive or educational facilities,

which are generally self-use. Limited facilities for research and park management may also be present.

Infrastructure is intended to meet the needs of park visitors entering or exiting from the park's interior. As such, only very basic facilities are provided. Throughout the five parks in Temagami's backcountry (wilderness and waterway) the overall intent is to provide minimal facilities in order to preserve the remote backcountry experience.

8.0 INDIVIDUAL PARK ZONING

While each park in this management plan is a distinct, regulated provincial park, the zoning designations have been identified at a broader level across all five parks; the naming/numbering of zones has been combined for the sake of clarity and simplicity. For example, all Access zones use the same continuous numbering system across all five parks (e.g. A 1, A2, A3 carries on throughout all the parks).

For an area of such size, the number of access zones within the five parks is minimal since much of the access into the parks originates well beyond the park boundaries. Many backcountry trips typically begin in other areas such as conservation reserves or Crown land, with the trip *extending into* the parks.

Note that throughout this plan, zoning designations have been undertaken predominantly to delineate differences in management direction rather than as a detailed delineation of landform/vegetation associations.

In this section, individual zones are described and the overall management intent outlined. Management direction specific for each zone is provided, however this should be read in conjunction with the broader management direction provided in sections 9 to 11. These broader sections of provincial park policy—Resource Stewardship, Operational, and Development Policies—provide further management direction as well as permitted or prohibited activities.

8.1 Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park

The wilderness park is comprised of one Wilderness zone, two Nature Reserve zones and six Access zones.

NR 1 Aurora Watershed Nature Reserve Zone (Map 3) 1,125 hectares

Zone Description: this relatively small watershed lies perched upon one of the higher ridges found within the park. The nature reserve boundary is defined by the sub-watershed boundary. The watershed includes Whitepine, Little Whitepine, Whirligig and Aurora lakes. Whitepine and Whirligig lakes are the lakes-of-origin for the endangered Aurora trout, which is identified as a species-at-risk in Ontario. Both lakes are designated as fish sanctuaries.

There is an extensive history of research and active management on the lakes within this watershed. The Nature Reserve designation highlights this area of particular sensitivity and recognizes the requirement for further research and management to protect this species-at-risk which is unique to Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park.

Management Intent: to provide enhanced protection to the only known native lakes of the Aurora trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis timagamiensis*), a distinctly coloured form of brook trout. This Nature Reserve zone includes the native lakes and their headwaters[5].

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- maintain fish sanctuary status of Whitepine and Whirligig lakes
- camping is not permitted except with the written approval of the park superintendent for research and management purposes
- hunting is prohibited
- aircraft landing is not permitted except for research purposes with the written approval of the park superintendent.
- active research and monitoring to support management of aurora trout and its habitat is encouraged. Research and monitoring will be permitted to continue under a Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario Parks and the Cooperative Freshwater Ecology Unit.
- management of aurora trout is permitted per the *Aurora Trout Recovery Strategy*.

NR 2 Chris Willis Peatland Nature Reserve Zone (Map 3) 1,354 hectares

Zone Description: this extensive peatland complex consists of forested and stabilized sand dunes interspersed with a range of peatland communities. The dominant landform is an extensive aeolian deposit characterized by sand dunes that are now stabilized by vegetation. This diverse area includes representative examples of all five major wetland groups, including swamps, fens, bogs, marshes and shallow water wetlands. The dunes are covered by upland mixed forests of Black Spruce and Jack Pine. In contrast to the dunes on Lady Evelyn Lake (in East Lady Evelyn Lake Conservation Reserve), these dunes have been little affected by elevated lake water levels.

Management Intent: to provide enhanced protection to the extensive peatland that occurs north of Chris Willis Lake. This provincially significant peatland is sensitive to a number of human activities that have typically occurred in this area along the eastern boundary of the park.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motor boat use is prohibited on all waters within the nature reserve.
- camping is prohibited
- hunting is prohibited
- aircraft landings are prohibited
- no motorized vehicles (ATVs, snowmobiles) are permitted.

W 1 *Ish-pud-in-ong* Wilderness Zone (Map 3) 71,763 hectares

Zone Description: this wilderness zone forms the core of Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park and encompasses many of the values for which the Temagami area is known. The name for this wilderness zone embodies the spirit of Temagami's aboriginal heritage. An Ojibwe name meaning "the place that stands above all others", it is a direct

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[5] In 2006, the federal and provincial governments released the *Recovery Strategy for the Aurora Trout* (*Salvelinus fontinalis timagamiensis*) in Canada. The primary long-term goal of the strategy is to maintain secure self-sustaining Aurora trout populations in Whirligig Lake and Whitepine Lake.

reference to the ridge—Ishpatina—which is the highest point in the province (2,275 feet, or 693 metres, above sea level).

The zone contains other high ridges—Maple Mountain (*Chee-bay-jing*), Dry Lake Ridge, and a number of high points in the Florence Lake area—that offer excellent viewpoints of Temagami's rugged landscape. Ishpatina Ridge and Maple Mountain have forest fire lookout towers at their summits; these historic structures are accessible by foot trails from the lakes below. Trails in the zone are accessible only from the parks' canoe routes and form part of the "wilderness experience" sought by many visitors.

Vegetation ranges from cliff and rock barrens to partially open bogs, fens and aquatic communities to upland coniferous, mixed and deciduous forests. The area is well known for its remaining stands of old growth red and white pine ecosystems. Natural disturbances, such as wind throw and fire are evident in the vegetation mosaic of this wilderness zone.

Running through the zone's rugged landscape is the Lady Evelyn River system. From the west two *branches* flow eastward, converging into a main channel; this scenic river with multiple pools and rapids is known historically as "the Trout Streams". The river then divides again into two *channels*, flowing over a series of waterfalls known as "the Golden Staircase". Both channels flow into Willow Island and Suckergut lakes, part of the large Lady Evelyn Lake system to the east of the park.

The Lady Evelyn River is an important Brook trout fishery. Throughout the wilderness zone, many other lakes provide important Lake trout habitat. These lakes vary in size and are interspersed throughout the zone. Key Lake trout lakes include Anvil, Banks, Dees, Jerry, Grays, Makobe, Marina and McGiffin lakes (two other Lake trout lakes are designated as access zones).

As the largest zone within the Temagami area parks, this wilderness zone contains a range of prehistoric and historic landscapes and sites sacred to Temagami's First Nations. For reasons of security and cultural sensitivity, these sites are incorporated within the greater wilderness zone rather than identified as individual historic zones.

Management Intent:

- maintain/enhance the ability for natural processes to function freely, to continue unimpeded by human intervention where possible
- maintain remote, wilderness experience
- minimize user conflicts, impacts
- rehabilitate and restore damaged ecosystems (aquatic, terrestrial).
- decommission and, where appropriate, rehabilitate existing unauthorized road/trail systems
- enable limited motorized use through seasonal access zones in specified areas, with restrictions to ensure sustainable recreational use and the protection of park resources.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- natural ecological process will be permitted to function with minimal human intervention where feasible

- development will be limited to the construction or upgrading of backcountry campsites, privies, trails and portages as required to ensure visitor safety and to prevent environmental degradation
- unplanned or unauthorized access from resource access roads outside of the zone will be discontinued
- hunting is prohibited
- motorized travel within the wilderness zone is prohibited, except as permitted through seasonal access zones (see A1 and A2)
- aircraft landings are prohibited in the wilderness zone, except for aircraft associated with commercial tourism which may land in the following water bodies: Chris Willis, Florence, Grays, Hobart, Makobe (north basin only), McPherson and Scarecrow
- aircraft landings on all other water bodies in the wilderness zone are prohibited
- the emergency landing of aircraft in distress is permitted, as is aircraft access to provide assistance to persons in distress
- use of fixed and rotary wing aircraft for parks management and research will be minimized where possible to reduce potential impacts on the wilderness experience

A1 Smoothwater Lake Access Zone (Map 3) 948 hectares

Zone Description: Smoothwater Lake is one of the largest and deepest lakes within the park and provides excellent lake trout habitat. Open water access is by boat via the Montreal River, which flows northward out of the park. The nearest boat launch on the river is at the Beauty Lake Road, 8 kilometers north of the park boundary. The shallows at the mouth of the river restrict the size of boats which can pass into the park. Winter access by snowmobile essentially follows the Montreal River, with land sections along the northeast shore to bypass open water and thin ice.

Management Intent: to provide access to the park for the purposes of canoeing, angling and limited motorized use.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motorboats to a limit of 10 hp are permitted from the Montreal River at the park boundary upstream into and on Smoothwater Lake.
- snowmobiles are permitted within the zone for the purposes of winter recreation and to follow the authorized snowmobile trail which extends southward through the seasonal access zone A 1 S (see below)
- no travel off of the frozen lake surface will be permitted. Off-trail travel to areas outside the zone are prohibited
- portable signs delineating the snowmobile trail shall be removed before the end of the season
- management direction for the use of the snowmobile trail through the seasonal access zone A 1 S shall also apply (see below)
- no ATVs are permitted within the zone
- hunting is prohibited
- private and commercial aircraft landings are permitted throughout all seasons.
- all other forms of motorized access or use are prohibited.

A 1 S Seasonal Access Zone: Existing Snowmobile Trail East of Ishpatina Ridge (Map 3) 26 hectares

Zone Description: this winter season access zone covers the existing snowmobile trail which crosses the western portion of the park, east of Ishpatina Ridge, through Smoothwater, Apex, McCulloch, Mihell and Scarecrow lakes and the associated canoe portages.

Management Intent: to enable winter season snowmobile travel along the existing trail while maintaining the wilderness character of the canoe route. An alternate route for the trail outside of the park will continue to be explored.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

The snowmobile trail is permitted to continue with the following conditions:

- winter use by snowmobiles only (no ATVs permitted).
- the trail is designated as a winter season access zone, reverting to wilderness zone in non-winter season
- winter season dates will be determined by the superintendent in order to ensure safe travel conditions and to protect park resources
- snowmobile travel on the designated trail only; no off-trail travel permitted
- trail maintenance is limited to the removal of deadfall along the trail. No widening of the existing trail is permitted.
- markers and signage for snowmobile trail use will be permitted as designated by the park superintendent; temporary markers placed on lake surfaces must be removed before the end of each season
- alternative route options to the west of the park boundary will continue to be explored utilizing existing tertiary forestry roads where possible. When there is a viable alternative, the existing trail within the park will be relocated and closed.

A 2 Gamble Lake Access Zone (Map 3) 66 hectares

Zone Description: this linear access corridor utilizes a portion of the former Liskeard Lumber Road within the park. The access zone extends from the north boundary 3.8 km southward along the road, forming a corridor to a staging area adjacent to Gamble Lake.

Management Intent: to enable recreational access into the wilderness park, specifically to the Lady Evelyn River system, while protecting core areas in wilderness zone W 1.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motor vehicles (including ATVs) are permitted to travel on the existing roadway only within the Access zone
- the road will be terminated at a staging area adjacent to Gamble Lake. The staging area will be developed to provide for parking, day use and limited camping facilities as well as signage for backcountry information. A restricted access to the shoreline of Gamble Lake will be developed for the transport of small boats and canoes (see also Use of Motor Boats on the Lady Evelyn River in A 2 S below)
- Ontario Parks is not responsible for road maintenance outside the boundary of the park. Road maintenance inside the Access zone will be limited to preventing

environmental degradation within the park (e.g. erosion, siltation etc.) and protecting park values
- a managed boat cache for this access point will be implemented; use of the cache will be encouraged in order to minimize the introduction of invasive species into the Lady Evelyn River system.
- ATVs are restricted to the designated roadway and parking areas
- no off-road use of ATVs or other motor vehicles will be permitted within the zone, or to areas outside of the access zone
- snowmobiles are permitted in the zone along the existing roadway to the intersection with the seasonal trail in A 3 for the purposes of accessing the Trethewey Lake Access Zone (A 4). Travel beyond this area is prohibited
- off-road motorized travel is prohibited
- hunting is prohibited

A 2 S Seasonal Access Zone: Motor Boat Use on Lady Evelyn River (Map 3) 131 hectares

Zone Description: this open-water season zone consists of the North Branch of the Lady Evelyn River from the Gamble Lake Access Zone (A 2 above) downstream to the first raids south of the current bridge location. The latter portion, from the confluence of the North and South Branches, downstream to the rapids, is part of the Main Channel. This seasonal access zone does not include river segments upstream or downstream of the described area, and does not include the South Branch of the river.

Management Intent: to support existing motor boat use while protecting the aquatic resources and recreational character of the Lady Evelyn River and protect the native brook trout fishery and aquatic ecosystems along the river system while enabling a sustainable level recreation (canoeing, boating and angling).

Zone-Specific Management Direction:
- motor boat use, with restrictions, is permitted on the North Branch of the Lady Evelyn River from the Gamble Lake Access Zone (A 2) downstream to the first rapids south of the current bridge location
- season dates will be determined by the park superintendent
- ongoing research and monitoring will be undertaken to assess the health of the river's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems. If it is determined that motor boat use or angling activities are detrimental to the brook trout fishery, further restrictions may be implemented.
- motors are prohibited on all other sections of the river (except Access zone A 6, page 21)
- motor horsepower is restricted to a maximum of 10hp
- a managed boat cache will be designated at the Gamble Lake Access zone (A 2)
- no ATVs or other motorized vehicles are permitted
- hunting is prohibited

A 3 Trethewey Trail Access Zone (Map 3) 65 hectares

Zone Description: this 1-kilometer long corridor extends eastward from the Gamble Lake access zone (A 2) along an existing walking trail through low, wet areas to a small lake

to the southwest of Trethewey Lake (A 4). The zone is delineated as a 500-metre wide corridor in order to enable alternate trail re-routing to the north as feasible.

Management Intent: to provide access from A 2 to A 4 while protecting the sensitive wetland environment found to the west of Trethewey Lake. Seasonal motorized access (winter snowmobile use only) and non-winter access will be permitted by foot only along the existing designated trail to the Trethewey Lake access zone (A 4).

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- the trail is designated as a walk-in trail only during the non-winter months
- the existing trail will be rerouted to higher ground to the north as feasible
- snowmobiles are permitted on the trail to access Trethewey Lake for recreation purposes
- off-trail snowmobile travel is prohibited
- no ATVs or other motorized vehicles are permitted
- hunting is prohibited

A 4 Trethewey Lake Access Zone (Map 3) 621 hectares

Zone Description: this zone includes all waters within Trethewey Lake and the small unnamed lake to the southwest. It does *not* include the chain of small lakes which extend to the northeast of Trethewey Lake.

Management Intent: to provide for continued local angling opportunities while protecting the lake's aquatic environment and maintaining a healthy, self-sustaining lake trout population within Trethewey Lake.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- boat access is permitted through a managed cache system at a location to be determined nearby the existing boat cache
- motor boat use is permitted during the open water season with a maximum power limit of 10 hp
- private and commercial aircraft access is permitted throughout all seasons
- motorized access by snowmobile is permitted during the winter months
- all other forms of motorized access or use are prohibited
- hunting is prohibited

A 5 Makobe Lake Northwest Shore Access Zone (Map 2, Map 3) 5 hectares

Zone Description: situated on the shoreline of Makobe Lake's north basin, this small access zone is located at the park boundary. This access zone can be reached by an unmaintained forest access road which runs 10 km southeastward from the Liskeard Lumber Road at Southbear Lake to the park boundary. The road will not be maintained as the primary purpose of the zone is to provide winter access by snowmobile.

Management Intent: to provide access to the north basin of Makobe Lake. All three basins of Makobe Lake lie within *wilderness zone* W 1, however winter motorized access will be permitted in the north basin only (see A 5 S, below). Long term monitoring will be undertaken to investigate the health and sustainability of the lake trout populations on all

park lakes. As knowledge is gained about the state of the fishery, a determination to extend motorized use to the open water season may be considered.

This access zone is along the periphery of the park boundary and is accessed by the unmaintained forest access road on adjacent Crown land in Kirkland Lake District. The long-term status of the road is undetermined. There is no intent on the part of MNR or Ontario Parks to provide any form of maintenance of this road. The primary purpose of this access zone is to enable winter access by snowmobile.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motor vehicle use is permitted for access purposes only
- snowmobiles are permitted *beyond* the access zone into the north basin of Makobe Lake (see A 5 S Seasonal Access Zone: Snowmobile Use on Makobe Lake below)
- hunting is prohibited

A 5 S Seasonal Access Zone: Snowmobile Use on Makobe Lake
(Map 2, Map 3) 377 hectares

Zone Description: this winter-season access zone includes the lake surface of the north basin of Makobe Lake. This seasonal extension applies to the north basin.

Management Intent: to provide access to the north basin of Makobe Lake. All three basins of Makobe Lake lie within *wilderness zone* W 1; however winter snowmobile access will be permitted in the north basin. Long term monitoring will be undertaken to investigate the health and sustainability of the lake trout populations on all park lakes. As knowledge is gained about the state of the fishery, a determination to extend motorized use to the open water season may be considered. Similarly, if deemed unsustainable, a determination to limit the use of snowmobiles on the north basin may be made.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- snowmobile travel into the north basin of Makobe Lake is permitted for the purposes of winter angling. All three basins of Makobe Lake lie within the wilderness zone, however snowmobile access is permitted in the north basin, as part of the access zone extension during the winter months
- season dates will be determined by the park superintendent
- snowmobile travel beyond the north basin is prohibited
- long term monitoring will be undertaken to investigate the health and sustainability of the lake trout populations on Makobe Lake. As knowledge is gained about the state of the fishery, a determination to limit the use of snowmobiles on the north basin may be made
- hunting is prohibited
- ATV travel is prohibited
- Aircraft landings in winter season is permitted

A 6 South Channel Lady Evelyn River Access Zone (Map 3, Map 4) 78 hectares

Zone Description: this zone includes only the waters of the Lady Evelyn River South Channel from the narrows at Willow Island Lake upstream to the first rapids. The rapids constitute a natural barrier to further travel and delineate the end of the access zone

Management Intent: to enable limited motor boat access to the lower section of the south channel through Willow Island Lake. The intent is to provide for angling and day use visits to the south channel.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motor boat use is permitted, with no horsepower restrictions, to the first set of rapids upstream on the South Channel of the Lady Evelyn River.
- no boat caches will be permitted
- all other motorized uses (aircraft, snowmobiles, ATVs) are prohibited
- hunting is prohibited

8.2 Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park

This waterway park is zoned entirely as Natural Environment zone. Note that access is gained from within Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park, or from the community of Elk Lake, which is immediately downstream of the park boundary.

NE 1 Makobe River Natural Environment Zone (Map 2) 1,473 hectares

Zone Description: A small, bedrock-controlled river which flows northwards from headwaters within Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park. This linear canoe route offers good whitewater opportunities in the spring season during high water levels.

The river is contained in a narrow north-south trending valley, descending through a number of small waterfalls and rapids. The valley widens out in Alexander Lake area, where shoreline wetlands include shrub and grass fens and black ash swamp.

The park boundary extends 200 metres from waters edge on either side of the river. Access to the Makobe River is typically gained through Trethewey, Makobe and Banks lakes near the northern boundary of Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater wilderness park.

Management Intent: to provide for recreational use of this while protecting the park's natural features.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- no ATV or snowmobile travel is permitted
- no boat caches are permitted
- hunting is permitted

8.3 Obabika River Provincial Park

This waterway park contains a diversity of landscapes and varying levels of recreational use. The park consists of one large Natural Environment zone, two smaller Natural Environment zones and a Wilderness zone.

NE 2 Lady Evelyn Peninsula Natural Environment Zone (Map 3) 13,784 hectares

Zone Description: this zone includes a large peninsula of land surrounded by a series of lakes; this large roadless area lies adjacent to the eastern boundary of the wilderness

park. The lower basin of Lady Evelyn Lake lies within the waterway park and includes a number of private recreation camps, private cottages on patent lands, commercial tourist lodges and moderate motor boat traffic.

To the west and south, lakes such as Sucker Gut, Willow Island and Diamond offer more secluded motor boat, angling and canoeing opportunities. The Red Squirrel Road Extension crosses the southern portion of the zone to the southwest of Diamond Lake. This forest access road is gated to the east of the park with vehicular access restricted to forestry purposes. Motorized access for recreational purposes is prohibited, except for the use of snowmobiles in winter.

Management Intent: to protect the natural and cultural features of the zone while enabling a range of recreational uses to occur, as well as the industrial use of the Red Squirrel Road Extension. To preserve the semi-remote recreational character of the popular canoe route through the Diamond Lake area.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motor boats are permitted in all lakes within the zone
- snowmobile use is permitted
- ATVs are prohibited, except for commercial lodges and private recreation camps within the boundaries of their patent land or land use permit
- motor vehicle use of the Red Squirrel Road Extension forest access road for forestry purposes is permitted. (Restrictions on timing, noise and safety considerations at portages are outlined in the AOC for this area in the FMP).
- aircraft landings are permitted on all lakes within the zone
- all aircraft require valid written authorization from the park superintendent. Aircraft landing fees may be applicable in future
- hunting is permitted

NE 3 Obabika Lake North Natural Environment Zone (Map 4) 411 hectares

Zone Description: this zone encompasses the waters in the northern portion of Obabika Lake that lie within the park boundary.

Management Intent: to enable motor boat use in these waters adjacent to the wilderness zone (W 2).

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motor boats and aircraft are permitted within the zone
- all aircraft require valid written authorization from the park superintendent. Aircraft landing fees may be applicable in future

NE 4 Obabika River Natural Environment Zone (Map 4) 1,080 hectares

Zone Description: this zone encompasses the slow and meandering Obabika River, which passes through fine sand, silt and clay substrates. The zone includes a 200 metre setback from high waterline on each shore and extends 18 kilometers from Little Fry Lake bog in W 2 to the river's confluence with the Sturgeon River.

Management Intent: to protect the natural character of this remote canoe route.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- travel by motorized vehicles is prohibited in this zone, except for the existing authorized road crossing in Armagh Township
- other unused or unauthorized roads within the zone will be closed and rehabilitated
- hunting is permitted

W 2 *Chees-kong-Abikong* Wilderness Zone (Map 4) 4,880 hectares

Zone Description: this wilderness zone captures the essence of "Temagami" for many people. The zone encompasses a number of significant and representative life science values; the most important being a large area of uncut old-growth Red and White Pine-dominated forest. The old growth forest site is considered provincially significant. The area includes extensive cliff and talus slope communities, cold seepage springs and bog communities associated with Cliff Lake. Known in Ojibwe as "Chees-kong-Abikong"—the place of the huge rock—the lake and the towering cliffs are an area of great spiritual significance to Temagami's First Nation communities.

The wilderness zone includes Wakimika Lake and Wakimika River to the west, as well as an extensive open low shrub bog near Little Fry Lake on the Obabika River. Regionally significant plant species found throughout the zone include Dwarf Mistletoe, Virgin's-Bower, Round-leaved Orchid, Smooth Blackberry, Water Dock, Marsh Fern and Painted Trillium.

The area forms the apex of a popular canoe route which begins and ends on Lake Temagami. A system of day-use hiking trails spreads through the old growth forest area from campsites on the north shore of Obabika Lake. For many visitors who do not venture further into the backcountry, this epitomizes a "remote experience" with a diversity of earth and life science features in a culturally rich recreational landscape.

Management Intent: to protect the significant cultural, earth science and life science features found within the zone. The remote wilderness nature of this portion of a popular canoe route will be maintained. Interpretive trails highlighting the old growth forest ecosystem will be maintained to ensure visitor safety and prevent environmental degradation. Hunting is prohibited in this popular wilderness zone to address visitor safety concerns.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- management will be undertaken in cooperation with First Nation communities to ensure that natural and cultural features are protected in a manner sensitive to this sacred site
- natural ecological process will be permitted to function with minimal human intervention where feasible
- backcountry facility development will be limited to the construction or upgrading of backcountry campsites, privies, trails and portages as required to ensure visitor safety and to prevent environmental degradation.
- motor vehicles, aircraft and motor boats are prohibited
- hunting is prohibited in the wilderness zone in consideration of public safety (i.e. visitor use in this popular area)

8.4 Solace Provincial Park

The entire area of this waterway class park is designated as a Natural Environment zone.

NE 5 Solace Lakes Natural Environment Zone (Map 3, Map 4) 5,535 hectares

Zone Description: The zone consists of a series of north-south trending lakes which lie parallel to each other but are separated by numerous short steep ridges. A series of canoe portages over the ridges connect this lake system; the canoe route also forms a connection between Sturgeon River water park to the west and Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater wilderness park to the east.

The landscape is dominated by Jack pine conifer forest and mixed forest including White Birch. The park lakes provide habitat for both Lake and Brook trout.

Management Intent: to protect the natural features of this remote area and to provide backcountry travel opportunities that complement the adjacent wilderness and waterway parks.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- hunting is permitted
- no new roads are permitted
- ATV and snowmobile travel is prohibited except for use associated with the existing land use permit holders
- motor boat use and aircraft landings are permitted

8.5 Sturgeon River Provincial Park

This waterway park consists of a Natural Environment zone and two Access zones. The Natural Environment zone includes the entire section of Sturgeon River that was regulated prior to the *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy* (OLL). The OLL addition is located downstream of the original park boundary and is not included in this zone. A separate Management Statement has been produced for the park addition. The two existing access zones are the only locations considered for future crossings of the park for the purpose of accessing Crown land resources adjacent to the park.

NE 6 Sturgeon River Valley Natural Environment Zone (Map 4) 3,912 hectares

Zone Description: this zone extends for 56 kilometers along the Sturgeon River, encompassing 200 metres from high water shoreline on either bank.

Management Intent: to protect the natural, cultural and recreational features of this moderately remote canoe route.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- ATVs are prohibited within the zone. ATV travel for access purposes to areas across the park will be through the designated Access zones (A 7 and A 8).
- hunting is permitted

A 7 Upper Sturgeon River Access Zone (Map 3, Map 4) 25 hectares

Zone Description: this area includes a small portion of the Portelance Road, a forest access road which crosses the river by a moderately shallow ford over boulders. This zone provides access to the Sturgeon River as well as Crown land to the north and east of the park. It also provides indirect access to the Scarecrow Lake area in Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park. In winter, a snowmobile trail (part of the trail through LE-SPP) crosses the river approximately 500 metres downstream of the ford in an area of fast ice.

Management Intent: to serve as a staging area for park visitors travelling downstream on the Sturgeon River. Also, to provide controlled access to the upper section of Sturgeon River Provincial Park as well as adjacent Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park, North Yorston Conservation Reserve and other Crown lands north and east of the river.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- a small staging area/parking lot may be developed on the west bank of the river
- no maintenance of the existing Portelance Road on either side of the river will be carried out by Ontario Parks
- motor vehicles and ATVs are permitted to use the existing water crossing and roadway
- snowmobile travel is permitted in this zone along the existing authorized snowmobile trail
- hunting is prohibited in access zones in consideration of public safety

A 8 Lower Goose Falls Access Zone (Map 4) 12 hectares

Zone Description: the zone includes the current site of the forest access bridge crossing the Sturgeon River 2.5 kilometers below the confluence of the Obabika and Sturgeon rivers. Lower Goose Falls are located immediately downstream of the bridge. Informal parking areas currently exist on both sides of the river. Walk-in access to water's edge is situated at the southwest portion of the zone, immediately below the falls.

An active logging road with varying degrees of seasonal use crosses the river at this site. There are safety considerations with a steep hill and sharp bend in the road to the west of the river inside the park boundary.
Management Intent: to provide a safe and environmentally sound, controlled access site to the lower Sturgeon River. To enable the continued use of this crossing by forestry operations as required.

Zone-Specific Management Direction:

- motor vehicle access is permitted on the existing road to enable crossing the park, or for access purposes
- ATV and snowmobile travel is permitted on the existing roadway
- off-road travel by snowmobiles and ATVs is prohibited
- a small parking and staging area may be developed
- hunting is prohibited in access zones in consideration of public safety

The following three sections (Sections 9, 10 and 11) provide broader management direction which applies to the various zones within all five parks. These sections should be consulted in conjunction with the zone-specific direction outlined above for each zone.

9.0 RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP POLICIES

The following section outlines the resource stewardship policies for the five parks. These policies will ensure that the overall park objectives are achieved and that ecological integrity takes a priority in park operations and development. The parks will be managed in accordance with pertinent legislation and policies such as the following:

- *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves* (2005)
- *Crown Land Use Policy Atlas*
- *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*
- *Endangered Species Act* (1990)
- *Environmental Assessment Act*
- *Environmental Bill of Rights* (1994)
- *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* (1997)
- *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* (1990)
- *Ontario Heritage Act* (1990)
- *Ontario Provincial Parks Planning and Management Policies* (1992, 1998 updates) and park policies, procedures, and guidelines
- *Our Sustainable Future* (2005)
- *Provincial Parks Act*
- *Public Lands Act*
- *Protecting What Sustains Us: Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy* (2005)
- *Temagami Land Use Plan for the Temagami Comprehensive Planning Area* (1997)

Resource stewardship projects will be undertaken in accordance with *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves* (2004).

9.1 Land Management

Management of the parks will be directed towards maintaining the natural landscape: this includes protecting genetic, species and ecosystem diversity as well as preserving ecological integrity. Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park and portions of the adjacent Obabika River Provincial Park contain large contiguous landscapes, including some entire watersheds.

Land Disposition
The sale or disposition of new lands for the private use (i.e., recreation camp, cottage) of individuals or corporations will not be permitted within the parks.

Patent Land
There are patent lands within the boundaries of the parks. If a landowner within the parks wishes to sell their land, Ontario Parks may consider purchase of the land on a

willing seller/willing buyer basis. Activities originating from the patent land are subject to all provincial park regulations (e.g. no hunting in the wilderness park).

Private Recreation Camp Land Use Permits (LUPs)
There are 19 existing private recreation camp LUPs within the parks. Existing private recreational camp LUPs will be phased out by December 31, 2009.

No new LUPs will be issued for private recreation camps. Should an LUP for a private recreation camp revert to the Crown, it will not be reissued.

Activities originating from LUPs are subject to provincial park regulations and policies.

Commercial Tourism Land Use Permits
There are two existing commercial tourism outpost operators authorized by land use permits within Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park and one within Obabika River Provincial Park. The existing authorized commercial LUPs may continue to be renewed for commercial tourism purposes if the terms and conditions of the permits are met. Transfers of existing commercial tourism facilities are permitted. Activities originating from authorized commercial operations are subject to provincial park regulations and policies (e.g. no hunting in the wilderness park, wilderness zones or nature reserve zones).

9.2 Industrial and Commercial Uses

Commercial forestry operations, mining or mineral exploration (e.g., prospecting, staking mining claims, developing mineral interests, working mines), extraction of sand, gravel, topsoil or peat, and commercial electrical power generation (e.g. hydroelectric and wind power) development, are not permitted within the parks. The commercial harvesting of non-timber forest products (e.g., Canada yew and blueberries) is not permitted within provincial parks.

For the waterway parks, proposals for new energy transmission, travel, and communications corridor crossings will be reviewed and commented on, in accordance with the appropriate environmental assessment requirements.

9.3 Vegetation Management

A vegetation management strategy may be prepared for the area parks, following the approval of the park management plan. The vegetation management strategy will be directed towards managing the natural succession of vegetation communities within the parks including native vegetation restoration as required. The removal of hazardous trees will be permitted in those parts of park zones where safety is a concern (e.g., authorized trails, access points). Areas that are identified for active restoration, such as abandoned roads, will use native species.

Fuelwood cutting for use by patent land owners and LUP holders is permitted only with the written authority of the park superintendent and will be strictly controlled to ensure environmental considerations have been met.

Insect and Disease Control
The five parks will be maintained in as natural a state as possible. Insect and disease control measures may be considered if park features or values are threatened. High population years of forest insects and the incidence of diseases may be monitored and assessed. If park values are threatened and management measures are considered, biological controls will be used wherever possible.

Until the vegetation management strategy is approved, emergency measures may be considered to protect park features and values. Such measures would be subject to the approval of the Ontario Parks zone manager, and/or the park superintendent.

9.4 Fire Management

MNR recognizes fire as an essential ecosystem process which is fundamental to maintaining and restoring the ecological integrity of protected areas in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and Boreal Forest Regions. Ontario Parks will undertake fire management planning in co-operation with MNR's Forest Fire Management program to determine the best approaches to fire management in provincial parks.

A park-specific fire management plan will be prepared for the parks identifying management objectives, protection priorities, the potential use of prescribed burning, and fire response activities. Fire management planning will advance the use of fire to meet ecosystem management objectives, while ensuring an appropriate response to forest fires to prevent personal injury, value loss, and social disruption.

Fire management planning will examine the historical role of fire in Ecodistrict 4E-4 and its potentially beneficial effects, particularly for forest succession and the rejuvenation of white pine. In the absence of an approved fire management plan, fire will be managed as on adjacent lands as directed by the *Forest Fire Management Strategy for Ontario* within the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence fire management zone.

Fires that threaten park visitor safety or park infrastructure will receive full response and sustained action until extinguished. Other fires can be considered for modified response, through consultation between the park superintendent and the fire management supervisor or duty officer.

Wherever feasible, "light on the land" fire suppression techniques which do not unduly disturb the landscape, may be used to protect sensitive features within the parks. Examples of these techniques include limiting the use of heavy equipment and foam retardant, or limiting the number of trees felled during fire response efforts. Prescribed burning may be used and will be subject to MNR policies and guidelines in order to address ecosystem management or hazard reduction concerns.

9.5 Wildlife Management

Wildlife is a visible and dynamic aspect of Ontario's biodiversity. Protected areas throughout Ontario are subject to a variety of internal and external stresses. These stresses range from potentially catastrophic natural disturbances such as stand-altering forest fires, the number of visitors using a protected area, to industrial activities such as forestry on adjacent lands, to the effects of climate change across the greater landscape. Habitat change, alteration and fragmentation directly affect species and

succession in ecosystems. The cumulative impact of a series of seemingly small habitat changes can significantly affect wildlife populations and distribution. Protection of biological diversity will be addressed in future implementation plans (e.g., vegetation, fire and fisheries management plans) and may include direction for monitoring, reporting, and adaptive management.

Information and education programs will be developed to inform park visitors about the potential risks and impacts of backcountry travel and recreation on wildlife (e.g. need for proper waste management, potential for introductions of non-native species, the need for no-trace backcountry techniques, safety practices in wildlife encounters etc.). The closure of areas may be necessary to reduce negative human-wildlife encounters. Problem animals may be trapped and relocated by authorization of the park superintendent if essential for the protection of human health and safety, or the health of the animal or species. In some circumstances, animals may be destroyed if essential for human health and safety, or when humane issues are a concern (e.g., injured or wounded animal).

The Temagami area parks lie mostly within Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 40. In the southwest, the Sturgeon River and part of the Obabika River form the boundary of, and lie within, WMU 41. Wildlife within the parks will be managed on a sustainable basis in accordance with current policies, procedures, regulations and legislation such as the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, Migratory Birds Convention Act,* and *Ontario's Wildlife Management Manual.* Wildlife management will be directed towards the maintenance or enhancement of diverse, healthy populations. The management of wildlife habitat may also be addressed as part of a vegetation management strategy.

Hunting

Hunting is permitted to continue in natural environment zones in the waterway class parks, with consideration for public safety and conservation, and subject to provincial hunting regulations. Within the four waterway parks, hunting is prohibited in wilderness zones and access zones. Information outlining where hunting is permitted in the waterway parks will be available from the park superintendent.

Hunting is prohibited within Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park (wilderness class).

Bear Management Areas

The operation of the existing BMAs is permitted to continue, except for those portions in wilderness zones, nature reserve zones and access zones where hunting is not permitted. MNR districts will notify BMA operators of any change in harvesting opportunities due to zoning designations and the BMA boundaries will be adjusted accordingly. Ontario Parks will work with MNR districts and authorized BMA holders to address potential conflicts with other recreation uses (e.g. bearbaiting setbacks from campsites and portages) as a condition of licensed BMAs within the waterway parks.

The transfer of BMAs may be permitted if approved by MNR districts and Ontario Parks. If an operator surrenders a BMA or if it is revoked, the BMA may be reallocated following existing screening processes. Applications for renewal or transfer will be assessed with consideration for conservation principles and public safety.

Trapping
Trapping will be phased out of all lands and waters within the parks, except for trapping by Status Indians, by January 1st, 2010. If a license is revoked, surrendered, or an application for transfer is received prior to that date, all portions of the registered trap-line within the park will be rescinded from the trap-line's legal description.

New trapline operations will not be permitted within the parks.

9.6 Aquatic Ecosystems Management

Aquatic resources and fisheries are protected under the *Provincial Parks Act* and *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act*. Fishing is a popular activity for many park visitors. The *Fisheries Act* and provincial fisheries regulations govern fishing within the parks.

Fisheries Management
The parks will be managed to protect healthy aquatic ecosystems, species and genetic diversity including the maintenance or enhancement of self-sustaining fisheries.

Recreational fishing is subject to provincial and federal fisheries regulations (e.g., *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* and *Fisheries Act*) as described in the *Ontario Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary*. There are no commercial fisheries within the five parks.

A fisheries management plan may be prepared for the five parks as an update to MNR district fisheries management plans and consistent with parks goal and objectives and to sustain ecological integrity. The approved fisheries management strategy will be consistent with applicable fisheries management direction such as district fisheries management plans, the *Northeast Lake Trout Enhancement Project (in progress)*, the *Northeast Region Fisheries Action Plan "Responding to Client Needs"*, and the *Strategic Plan for Ontario Fisheries (SPOF II): An Aquatic Ecosystem Approach to Managing Fisheries* and *the Ecological Framework for Fisheries Management in Ontario*.

Non-native species will not knowingly be introduced into the parks. Regulations may be developed to discontinue live baitfish use. Situations may arise where fish may be trapped, relocated or introduced in the delivery of an approved fisheries management strategy and as authorized by the park superintendent. Such control measures may be exercised only when it is essential for the protection of human health and safety, the health of fish and/or fish species.

Restoration of park fisheries and aquatic habitats may be undertaken, where appropriate in the delivery of an approved fisheries management strategy and as authorized by the park superintendent. Any decisions regarding fisheries management (e.g. stocking, season changes, sanctuaries and ice fishing restrictions) will be undertaken in conjunction with MNR district staff and will be subject to *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves*, and/or *A Class Environmental Assessment for Resource Stewardship and Facility Development*.

If deemed necessary to protect fishery values, fishing regulations may be developed for selected waters within the five parks in consultation with MNR district staff (e.g. conservation limits).

Lake and Brook Trout Fisheries
Self-sustaining lake trout lakes within the parks include: Smoothwater, Trethewey, Makobe, Banks, Grays, Diamond, and Obabika lakes. Self-sustaining brook trout lakes and rivers include: McPherson, McGiffin, Grays, Bercole, Grays River, North Lady Evelyn River and South Lady Evelyn River. Nature Reserve zone NR1 includes the original lakes of the endangered Aurora trout, a species at risk.

Existing fish sanctuaries will continue on Florence, White Pine and Whirligig lakes. Fishing is prohibited in these sanctuary lakes.

Sport Fishing
Sport fishing is permitted to continue in compliance with relevant provincial fishing regulations' seasons and limits. A Temagami area provincial parks fishery management strategy may be developed to address fishery values, restoration needs and may result in changes to fishing regulations for selected waters within the Temagami area backcountry parks. The development of this strategy will involve appropriate MNR district staff.

Fish Stocking
Missing native species may be re-introduced, and existing populations replenished, if this is biologically feasible and acceptable, and if it is desirable in terms of perpetuating values for which the parks were established. Any fish stocking will be in accordance with appropriate strategies and guidelines (e.g. district fisheries management plans, park fisheries management etc.).

Commercial Fishing
There are no existing commercial fishing licenses. No new operations will be permitted.

Baitfish Harvesting
There are 28 baitfish licenses covering the four waterway parks. Baitfish harvesting will continue under existing restrictions, as described within the provincial fisheries regulations, to reduce the risk of accidental species introductions. Existing licenses are permitted to continue in the parks subject to the conditions specified on the license. New bait harvesting licenses will not be permitted in the provincial parks. Where bait harvesting is an established permitted use, the transfer of existing active licenses and permits may be permitted, subject to review and approval by MNR districts/Ontario Parks, and following established allocation procedures.

Water Quality
The approved parks management plan will identify ways to prevent the degradation of water quality which may occur as a result of recreational use or tourism, or other development. Uses in the parks (e.g., contamination from motorboats, remote campsites and tourism outposts) have the potential to disrupt ecological processes, in headwater areas and downstream. Ecosystem contamination can contribute to health problems in both people and wildlife, at individual and population levels. Water quality in the parks may be monitored and, if it is determined that a harmful level of pollution exists, measures will be taken to identify sources of pollution and minimize water contamination.

The establishment of privies, authorized dumps (off-site), and litter restrictions will assist in the control of human waste issues within the provincial parks. Unauthorized refuse disposal on adjacent Crown land will remain an offence under the *Public Lands Act*.

9.7 Non-Native and Invasive Species

Non-native species are a growing threat to biodiversity in Ontario. Non-native species that present a threat to the environment, economy, and/or society in general are called *invasive* species. Unrestrained by natural predators and competitors, many of these species can reproduce rapidly. This can have a devastating impact on the composition and structure of native ecosystems. Invasive species can impair or permanently damage native trees, wetlands, lakes, and rivers.

Non-native species will not be deliberately introduced to the parks. A non-native or alien species is one that has been introduced to an ecosystem either accidentally or intentionally. These species may originate in other continents or countries, or from other parts of Ontario or Canada.

In addition to other threats to biodiversity (e.g., pollution, habitat loss, etc.), non-native species, such as purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*), have the potential to disturb and severely alter natural ecosystems within the Temagami area backcountry parks. Non-native species within parks may be monitored and, if it is determined that harmful invasive species exist, measures will be taken to address the control of non-native species.

Until appropriate strategies (e.g., vegetation, fisheries) are approved, emergency measures may be considered to protect the Temagami area backcountry parks' features and values. Such measures would be subject to the approval of the appropriate MNR district manager, and/or the park superintendent.

9.8 Species at Risk

MNR affords protection to special concern, threatened, and endangered species through legislation, policies, and the development of recovery strategies. The species at risk unit co-ordinates conservation, protection, and recovery actions, by increasing public awareness and education, as well as working to prevent the further decline of affected species and their habitats.

Recovery plans identify ways to manage and improve the status of species and their habitat, and to take action to mitigate further decline. These plans include stewardship activities, habitat protection and restoration, monitoring, research and public information. Such actions may be applied within the Temagami area parks in terms of pursuing a variety of conservation, protection, and recovery efforts.

Ontario Parks will participate in any species at risk strategies or initiatives that may affect species at risk. These strategies or initiatives would be considered during the forest management planning for adjacent Crown lands. Public education programs may also be developed to educate visitors about measures to protect species at risk and to ensure the species' continuance.

Protection of habitat for known species at risk was considered during zoning of the Temagami area backcountry parks. There are known occurrences or high potential for the following species at risk within the parks.

Birds	SARO[6] List	Provincial Rank (NHIC)[7]
Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)	Special Concern	Uncommon to Common Breeder/Non-breeding migrant
Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*)	Threatened	Vulnerable Breeder
Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*)	Special Concern	Vulnerable/Apparently Secure
Mammals		
Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septenttrionali*)*		Vulnerable
Eastern Wolf (*Canis Lupis*)	Special Concern	Uncommon to Common (Gray Wolf)
Fish		
Aurora Trout* (*Salvelinus fontinalis timagamiensis*)	Endangered	Endangered Original lakes-of-origin

* Species range reported in Temagami area backcountry parks.

Species at risk and other species that are regionally or locally rare may exist within the area but have not yet been documented. These special features will be identified as part of future natural heritage assessments.

9.9 Cultural Heritage

Ontario Parks will work in partnership with First Nation communities, the Ministry of Culture (MCL) and others interested in heritage values to plan and implement measures to document and maintain the integrity of Aboriginal and historical sites throughout the five parks. Ontario Parks will consult with First Nations and others on matters pertaining to the use and interpretation of cultural heritage. A cultural heritage strategy may be prepared.

Licensed archaeologists may be permitted to carry out investigations with prior written approval from Ontario Parks and under the supervision of MCL. Cooperation with interested Aboriginal people, and ongoing archaeological investigations, will be pursued in an attempt to locate additional cultural heritage sites associated with past Aboriginal, fur trade, and logging activities.

Cultural resources will be managed to ensure their protection and to provide opportunities for heritage appreciation and research (where these activities do not impair the resource). In order to protect cultural resources from human disturbance, the location of sensitive sites will not be promoted to prevent the unauthorized collection of artifacts. Unauthorized removal of artifacts or the destruction of historical features is prohibited.

Protecting cultural resources will be a high priority and is addressed in park management through zoning, legislation, and public education. The protection of cultural resources will be carried out in accordance with MNR's cultural heritage guidelines and *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves* and *A Class Environmental Assessment for MNR Resource Stewardship and Facility Development Projects*.

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[6] SARO – Species at Risk in Ontario List (Issued by the MNR's Species at Risk Section)
[7] National Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) rank conveying the degree of rarity of the species at the provincial (or sub-national) level.

Implementation of measures to identify and protect Aboriginal sites and traditions is a priority. Aboriginal communities have been invited to identify traditional uses and sites and to explore approaches with MNR to protect Aboriginal heritage. The sensitivity of this information will be respected. Recognized and suspected burial sites within the parks will be treated with respect and will be managed according to Ontario Parks policy.

Ontario Parks/MNR district staff may carry out periodic inspections of all identified significant sites, with protective controls established, as required. The removal of artifacts or the destruction of historical features is illegal, and is prohibited under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the *Provincial Parks Act,* and the *Public Lands Act*. Archaeological assessments will be undertaken prior to any proposed development within the Temagami area parks which has the potential to disturb cultural heritage resources.

10.0 OPERATIONAL POLICIES

A park operations plan will be prepared to cover all five parks. The plan will provide park staff with the necessary direction required to operate the parks on a day-to-day basis. The operations plan will include such topics as budget, staffing, maintenance schedules, enforcement, and emergency services. The provisions of the plan will be consistent with the approved *Ontario Provincial Parks Minimum Operating Standards*, and will be reviewed annually and updated as required. Park operations are carried out under the authority of the Park Superintendent.

10.1 Recreation Management

Recreation management will be undertaken to ensure recreational opportunities are provided while minimizing potential negative environmental impacts on the parks' natural, cultural and recreational values. Low-impact recreational activities which enable visitors to appreciate the parks' natural and cultural values will be encouraged.

Backcountry etiquette and the use of leave-no-trace techniques are important messages that will be provided to all visitors through appropriate materials (e.g., *Temagami Canoe Routes Planning Map,* park fact sheets, etc.).

Recreational activities are managed through zone specific direction. Compliance with park regulations will be achieved through visitor education and enforcement. Any activities which conflict with species at risk or their habitat or other sensitive features will be managed to ensure protection.

Tranquility and solitude in remote settings are important attributes to the enjoyment of the wilderness and waterway parks. Under the *Provincial Parks Act*, the park superintendent may limit the numbers of interior camping permits. Quotas may be implemented in heavily used areas if required to minimize environmental degradation or visitor crowding. If required, a reservation system or other methods of visitor management may be used to limit or redistribute recreational use within the parks.

Ontario Parks will work with adjacent MNR districts to manage backcountry recreational use in an integrated manner with adjacent conservation reserves and Crown lands. Ontario Parks' maintenance standards for campsites, trails and portages will be implemented.

Canoe Routes and Portages
Temagami's canoeing tradition dates back to the first aboriginal use of the land. Since the late 1800s, recreational canoeing has been an important part of the "Temagami Experience". Today, an extensive system of canoe routes continues to draw tourists to the area. The variety of lakes and rivers, rugged forest lands, natural and cultural heritage and remote location are all part of the appeal of the area.

The canoe routes overlay the five parks and connect with conservation reserves and adjacent Crown lands[8]. These routes—and their associated campsites, portages and trails—are core to backcountry park operations and management.

Backcountry management will monitor and evaluate existing or potential canoe routes, including portages. Canoe portages will be maintained as required to ensure public safety and to prevent environmental degradation.

Hiking Trails
There are several existing hiking trails within the backcountry parks. Motorized vehicles are not permitted on hiking trails. Backcountry hiking trails that complement existing remote canoeing experiences may continue within the parks (e.g., Ishpatina Ridge, Maple Mountain, Obabika North Old Growth trail system).

The maintenance of existing hiking trails may be undertaken as required to ensure public safety and to prevent environmental degradation. New hiking trails may be considered if they complement the goal and objectives of the backcountry parks.

Backcountry Camping and Fees
Existing campsites within the five parks have developed over time. Campsites are identified on the *Temagami Canoe Routes Planning Map* and with campsite markers. The maximum number of campers per interior campsite at one time is defined by regulation. Campsites will be maintained as required to ensure visitor safety and to prevent environmental degradation. Individual campsites may be closed or new sites created as required to implement backcountry management.

Park fees are charged for overnight camping but not for day-use.

Additional canoe and boat-in campsites may be developed as required to ensure visitor opportunities and to protect park resources. If necessary, a visitor distribution program may be developed to implement backcountry management in the parks.

Cross-country Skiing and Snowshoeing
Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing is permitted within the parks. There are no maintained trails. New ski trails and snowshoeing areas may be considered if they complement the goal and objectives and remote nature of the backcountry parks.

Geocaching
Geocaching is an outdoor activity involving the use of a global positioning system (GPS) receiver to find a predetermined location or "cache". Caches are either "physical" or "virtual." A *physical* cache is a container holding a log book and small rewards (e.g. key

[8] See the *Temagami Canoe Routes Planning Map*

chains, pins, coins, etc.) which is placed at a specified location for the participant to find. A *virtual* cache relates to an existing object or specific location (e.g., an obvious landmark or structure). The reward for virtual caches is in confirming the location itself.

Physical caches are not permitted in the five backcountry parks. Virtual geocaches may be permitted on a case-by-case basis by the park superintendent.

Dog Sledding
There are presently no areas designated for dog sledding within the parks. Except for in nature reserve zones, dog sledding may be permitted in areas designated by the park superintendent through the implementation of backcountry management. Mechanized grooming of dog sled trails will not be permitted.

Mountain Biking
There are no trails designated for mountain biking at present within the parks. Mountain biking is permitted only on authorized roads within the parks. Mountain biking may be permitted on trails designated by the park superintendent and implemented as part of backcountry management.

Rock Climbing
There are no existing authorized rock climbing areas in the parks. This activity is prohibited in wilderness zones and nature reserve zones. Rock climbing may be permitted only at sites designated by the park superintendent.

Water-based Activities
Sailing, sail boarding and scuba and skin diving may be permitted within the five parks. Swimming is permitted, however no designated swimming areas will be established.

Waste Management
Waste which occurs through backcountry use will be addressed through backcountry management standards within the five parks. Such standards include pit privies for designated campsites, where feasible. "Leave-no-trace" backcountry ethics and techniques will be promoted to park visitors through information, education and compliance. Regulations pertaining to litter will be enforced. Ontario Parks will continue to monitor the situation and, if required, establish a ban on non-burnable food and beverage containers.

There are no authorized dump sites within the parks. New facilities within the parks are not being considered. Unauthorized dumping is prohibited.

10.2 Access

Access to and within the five parks occurs through a variety of means. Much of the access begins well outside of the five parks, often many kilometres away. Access occurs through a variety of methods: extensive canoe routes, waters accessible to motor boats, Crown land resource access roads and aircraft.

Access points outside the five parks are key to providing access to parks (e.g., Mowat Landing, Temagami Mine Landing and Montreal River). These access points outside parks are where many recreational canoeists and motor boat users begin their travels to the parks.

Managed access into the parks will balance the needs of existing authorized users with the protection of the wilderness and remote character of the parks. Specific direction for access is outlined in the zoning section of this plan.

Any access or roads within the parks that are found to negatively impact park values, or are not well-positioned for managing access for recreational pursuits, may be decommissioned as backcountry management is implemented.

Access to private property, land use permits and access related to authorized resource harvesting (e.g. trapping, baitfish harvesting) in the parks may continue as long as their entitlements are in place. Requests for new private road access will not be considered. Access will be documented to the patent and LUP holders and resource harvesters by the park superintendent. Private property owners, LUP holders and authorized resource harvesters will be issued letters of authority by the park superintendent to allow for motorized access to their sites within parks.

Roads

Park visitors are not permitted to use motorized vehicles to gain access to the parks through any existing or new roads other than those designated for access purposes. Motorized vehicles may be used by private property owners and land use permit holders to access their properties. Licensed resource harvesters (e.g. trappers and baitfish harvesters) may use motorized vehicles to carry out resource harvesting activities. New recreational roads will not be authorized within the parks.

Ontario Parks is not responsible for roads or road maintenance outside the boundary of regulated provincial parks. Authorized roads located within the parks are governed by the *Highway Traffic Act* and zone-specific direction (i.e. for access purposes as outlined in specific access zones). Within the access zones, roads authorized for recreational access will be maintained to a minimal level limited to preventing environmental degradation (e.g. erosion, siltation etc.) and protecting park values. Old roads within the parks that are not authorized will not be maintained.

There are four existing resource access road crossings within two of the waterway parks. In Sturgeon River Provincial Park there is a water crossing in Haentschel Township north of Paul Lake. To the south, there is a bridge crossing at Lower Goose Falls in Sheppard Township. Obabika River Provincial Park has two existing crossings; in the central portion of the park, the Red Squirrel Road extension[9] crosses the park at Pencil Lake in Shelburne Township; to the south, in Armagh Township, there is a bridge crossing the Obabika River above its confluence with the Sturgeon River.

No new resource access road crossings will be considered within the parks. Existing resource access road crossings that are essential to the forest industry for access beyond the parks will continue to be available.

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[9] Note that specific road access restrictions and environmental requirements are laid out for the Red Squirrel Road in *An Environmental Assessment for Primary Access Roads in the Latchford Crown Management Unit* (Red Squirrel Road and Pinetorch Corridor). OMNR, 1988

The requirements for and use of existing authorized roads will be determined through the forest management planning process with input from Ontario Parks and MNR districts.

Ontario Parks will not be responsible for the maintenance of authorized resource access roads. Subject to environmental or park operational considerations, the continued use of roads for resource access purposes will include maintenance and may also include future upgrading. Minor realignments or upgrading of resource access roads may occur if necessary for safety or maintenance purposes, provided that park values are protected and *Environmental Assessment Act* requirements are met. The extraction of sand and gravel from wayside pits for road maintenance is not permitted within the parks.

Once road access is no longer required by the forest industry, sections of the road within park boundaries will be closed and decommissioned. This may include berms or barricades to prevent access and the removal of bridges. Road beds may be rehabilitated as required to encourage natural succession or protect aquatic resources.

Trails

Authorized trails within the parks may include trails identified by the park superintendent as necessary for hiking trails, portages, patent or LUP access, or access for authorized resource harvesters.

New trails will not be permitted except for the purposes of park management. New trails for the purposes of park management are subject to *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves* and Ontario Parks site planning requirements. The planning, location and development of trails will consider park features, values and existing uses, and should be directed to existing corridors where possible.

Subject to ecological considerations and implementation planning, realignments of existing trails may be necessary; these will be evaluated by Ontario Parks/MNR districts in consultation with the affected commercial harvest operators or landholders.

Snowmobiles

The purpose of recreational snowmobile use in the parks is for through access to Crown land adjacent to the parks, and to gain access to desired lakes for sport ice fishing. Recreational snowmobile use will be limited to established routes, as designated by the park superintendent.

The existing winter snowmobile trail through Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater, east of Ishpatina Ridge, will continue until such time as an alternate route is located west of the park. Trethewey and Makobe lakes seasonal access trail for winter snowmobile use is permitted to continue in the seasonal access zones.

Off-trail use of snowmobiles is not permitted except for licensed trappers to access their trap lines, and for licensed bait harvest operators to conduct bait harvest operations. In these cases, off-trail use is permitted, provided that the protection of park features and values are not compromised. Should snowmobile use degrade park features and values, Ontario Parks will re-evaluate this use with the intent of adjusting use provisions to sustain park features and values.

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)
Public vehicular travel within the parks is restricted to authorized roads within applicable access zones. There are no existing authorized trails for recreational ATV use within the five parks. ATVs are permitted in access zones on roads designated by the park superintendent. ATV travel beyond authorized roads is prohibited.

Off-trail use is not permitted except for licensed trappers to access their trap lines, or for licensed bait harvest operators to conduct bait harvest operations. In these cases, off-trail use is permitted, provided that the protection of park features and values are not compromised. Should ATV use degrade park features and values, Ontario Parks will re-evaluate this use with the intent of adjusting use provisions to sustain park features and values.

Motorboats
Motorboats are used throughout the five parks for commercial tourism, sport fishing, as well as to access patent lands and private land use permit sites.

Motorboats used in commercial tourism operations within Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park (wilderness class) will be permitted in specific lakes with horsepower restrictions. Private use of motorboats are permitted in Access zones and, where designated, with horsepower restrictions.

Within the four waterway class provincial parks, motorboats are permitted without power restrictions, except for Wilderness zone W 2 in Obabika River Provincial Park, where motorboats are prohibited.

Motorboat restrictions and horsepower limits will be implemented as required through provincial regulations.

Motorboat use may be monitored and assessed to determine if the use is degrading park features or values. Should there be a negative impact on park resources, motorboat use restrictions may be adjusted in order to sustain park features and values.

Boat Caches
Boat caches are prohibited except where authorized by the park superintendent. Authorized boat caches will be located so as not conflict with other recreational uses or cause environmental damage. Persons wishing to cache boats for justifiable purposes within the parks, including traditional access to property, must submit a request to the park superintendent. Upon review of the purpose, numbers, and locations, approvals may be issued. A system of managing and identifying cached boats will be developed (e.g. identification numbers). Fees may be charged. Unauthorized boats will be removed from the parks.

Aircraft
All aircraft landing in the parks require prior written authorization through a valid aircraft landing permit. Fees will apply for all aircraft landings within the five parks.

Air access will be permitted in access zones, at commercial tourism facilities, at private property and LUPs. Resource harvesters are permitted to use aircraft to access their operations per the terms of their resource harvest licence.

10.3 Research, Inventory and Monitoring

Planning and management decisions are intended to ensure the ecological sustainability of protected areas (including social and economic components). Ontario Parks will make decisions with the best available information. Where this information is lacking, Ontario Parks may conduct inventories and monitoring as necessary to obtain needed information. Such efforts will be undertaken based on established methodologies and best practices, and subject to available resources. This will foster an adaptive management approach to protected areas management. The following are broad approaches to identifying inventory and monitoring needs: management actions identified in this preliminary management plan; public input; routine park maintenance activities; staff knowledge and experiences and environmental scans.

Priority research, inventory and monitoring topics include but are not limited to:

- Aurora Trout recovery - habitat suitability, protection and management;
- Lake trout - inventories/studies of lake trout lakes, ongoing monitoring of aquatic ecosystem health, angling pressure etc. to assist in future management efforts;
- Lady Evelyn and Grays rivers systems, and Trethewey, Makobe, Banks and Smoothwater lakes' aquatic ecosystem health, health of brook trout populations in brook trout lakes;
- Presence and spread of non-native and invasive species;
- Campsite distribution and designation - ongoing monitoring of use, measuring effectiveness of campsite management, visitor use and distribution and education, campsite/portage condition, erosion etc.;
- Determination of possible future recreation management techniques, visitor distribution controls etc.
- Cultural heritage inventories/assessments; designation of future historic/cultural heritage zones as required

10.4 Adaptive Management

An adaptive management approach will be applied to resource management activities. Adaptive management allows for review and possible modification of management in response to monitoring and analysis of the results of past actions and experiences. Adaptive management is a systematic, practical approach to evaluating effectiveness of and improving resource management. This approach guides a process that implements resource management decisions, monitors and evaluates the outcomes, and uses the information to continually improve management direction.

10.5 Natural Heritage Education

The goal of the natural heritage education program is to develop visitor awareness and appreciation of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage, fostering a commitment to its protection for future generations. Programming may include three components: *information*, *interpretation* and *outdoor recreation*. The level of programming varies by park classification. The wilderness and waterway parks in the Temagami area will provide a self-use level of service, with an emphasis on information and limited interpretation.

Natural heritage education planning within park operations may identify specific program direction. This may include but not be limited to materials for park wardens, permit vendors, volunteers or other partners to enhance personal contact with park visitors as well as self use materials for park visitors.

Opportunities to learn and gain an appreciation of the character and significance of the Temagami area parks will be presented through printed material (e.g. park leaflets, newsletters, maps etc.), signs and information kiosks as well as through park staff.

Emphasis will be placed on management messages such as wilderness safety, backcountry etiquette and provincial park regulations. Further information will be developed in conjunction with backcountry recreation outside of the parks i.e. CRs and Crown land (See Appendix B for an example of a Fact Sheet currently in use for the Temagami area parks).

This self use level of service may be complimented by the development of informational and interpretive materials in conjunction with area First Nations, outfitters, local interest groups and tourism agencies. Ontario Parks will work with MNR district staff to develop materials in conjunction with information needs of the conservation reserves and Crown land recreation in the Temagami area.

10.6 Marketing and Communications

Visitors to the Temagami area parks include local residents, residents from other parts of Ontario as well as visitors from national and international markets.

Ontario Parks will work with local and regional tourism partners to promote an awareness and appreciation of Temagami's parks. Ontario Parks will work in conjunction with MNR district initiatives on adjacent Crown lands and conservation reserves to ensure that all communications are developed in an integrated manner.

Key topics include the following:

- provide detailed and accurate park information
- provide information about local attractions and area services
- foster appreciation for the natural, cultural and recreational values of the parks, conservation reserves and adjacent Crown land recreational features
- promote the wise use of Temagami's recreational landscape
- increase the safety of backcountry visitors and enhance the awareness of "no trace" camping ethics and techniques

Care will be taken to ensure that marketing initiatives do not create over-use of the parks or adjacent areas, and that the values for which the parks were created are protected.

11.0 DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

All development undertaken by Ontario Parks, or by partners on its behalf, will comply with *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves (2004)* and *A Cultural Heritage Technical Guideline for Projects Planned Under MNR's Class EA-RSFD and Class EA-PPCR* (2006). Development will be carried

out in accordance with approved site and development plans that meet development standards for provincial parks.

Development within the one wilderness and four waterway class parks will be kept to the minimum required to ensure the safe and effective access of park visitors and in keeping with the wilderness character of the area. To this end, facilities in access zones will typically include small parking areas and staging areas, visitor orientation and signage. Pit privies may be installed where required. In wilderness and natural environment zones, facilities are typically limited to backcountry campsites, pit privies, portages and trails as deemed necessary. Signage within the parks typically consists of that required for delineating campsites and portages.

12.0 IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES

This section contains a summary of priorities and policies to be implemented upon the approval of this park management plan. In the implementation of the approved park management plan, Ontario Parks may pursue opportunities for partnerships involving other agencies and groups. Park development, operations and resource stewardship will be contingent upon the availability of funding and unforeseeable changes in priorities or policy.

Implementation of the management plan and operation of the parks will meet the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act, Environmental Bill of Rights, Provincial Parks Act, Endangered Species Act* and other pertinent legislation.

All aspects of park management, development and operation will be screened and undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves*.

Implementation priorities may be established in subsidiary operating and resource stewardship plans. The preparation of these plans may involve an appropriate level of public consultation.

- develop a park operating plan for the five parks
- develop a research strategy for lake trout lakes
- ongoing research in Aurora trout management and habitat protection
- campsite inventory program
- continue/expand campsite privy program
- expand camping permit vendor program
- work with MNR districts to integrate backcountry maintenance program
- develop an inventory and monitoring program for key areas of cultural heritage, earth science or life science sensitivity or significance
- vegetation management plan
- fire management plan
- site plans for access zone development
- communication plan: develop information and educational materials to inform potential park visitors about no-trace camping techniques, area attractions and the role of parks in protecting natural and cultural heritage
- continue consultation with the First Nation communities about opportunities to protect cultural and natural heritage, and to enhance economic development

13.0 PLAN REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

The park management plan can be reviewed or amended to address changing issues or conditions. At ten year intervals, this plan will be assessed for the need for a review or amendment. A review may involve a reassessment of all or part of the plan, including classification, zoning, goal, objectives and all resource management, operations and development policies. An amendment can be considered to address specific issues or needs.

14.0 SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION

All consultation for park management planning is being undertaken as part of the Temagami Integrated Planning (TIP) process. The overall framework for this integrated planning effort is based upon Ontario's provincial park planning process. The process includes the following stages, with opportunities for public consultation at each stage:

1. Terms of Reference
2. Background Information
3. Management Options
4. Preliminary Management Plans
5. Approved Management Plans

Terms of Reference
The Terms of Reference was approved in July of 2001. An invitation to participate in the TIP project was issued to the public in June of 2004 following the public launching of the project by the Minister of Natural Resources (MNR) atop Caribou Mountain in Temagami.

Background Information
The *Temagami Integrated Planning: Background Information* document was released by the MNR in August of 2005. Following the release of this document a series of Open Houses were held where the public had an opportunity to comment. Public Open Houses were held at the following locations:

- North Bay
- Sturgeon Falls
- Matachewan First Nation
- Elk Lake
- New Liskeard
- Temagami
- Bear Island

Following the Open Houses, three separate Focus Group meetings were held. The Focus Group meetings, which were formed to represent the diversity of stakeholders, helped identify the key issues that needed to be addressed during the Management Options stage.

In addition to public open houses and focus groups, four additional information meetings were held in North Bay, Toronto, Ottawa and Temagami at the invitation of individual stakeholder groups.

Management Options

The *Temagami Integrated Planning: Management Options* document was released by the MNR in July of 2006. This document summarized key concerns raised through a series of open houses and focus group meetings throughout the summer and fall of 2005 and the winter of 2006. Following the release of the document a series of open houses and meetings was held during the summer and fall of 2006 to present the document and to gather public input. Public open houses were held at the following locations:

- North Bay
- Sturgeon Falls
- Elk Lake
- New Liskeard
- Temagami
- Bear Island

The Management Options document included a corresponding workbook in which readers could indicate their preferred choices from among the options presented. Readers were invited to include their supporting comments, or offer additional options beyond what was presented. Approximately 225 workbooks were submitted during this stage. A summary of comments received is provided below.

14.1 Summary of Comments from TIP Management Options Stage

The following section summarizes the range of comments received from the *Temagami Integrated Planning: Management Options* document and workbook. Key topics are outlined, along with a grouping of responses. Note that some topics are specific to the parks, others specific to the other two planning components (CRs and Crown land recreation) and others apply to all three components. See also Section 5.0, pages 9-12 for a summary of significant issues pertaining to parks.

Crown land and CR Maintenance with associated user fees. To be implemented as a partnership or tendered to a private contractor.

Pros:

- There is a need for maintenance due to degrading campsite conditions
- There is a need for increased education and enforcement
- A high concentration of users in some areas is causing problems
- MNR Should Maintain Strong Role as they are accountable and already enforce laws and regulations
- Will benefit the locals through job creation and will bring more money to the area

Cons:

- We pay taxes, Crown land should be free use
- Simply a money grab for the province, the average person can't afford fees
- Need to maintain traditional hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and ATV opportunities
- Add fee increase to the Outdoors card
- Stakeholders will cause problems among user groups and may be biased
- Stakeholders/contractors will operate for profit
- People should clean up after themselves, it has been working, potentially increase educational component
- User fees will not cover cost of maintenance program

- Wilderness doesn't need management
- MNR should reinstate its programs, bring back the Junior Ranger program

Crown Land and Conservation Reserve Boat Cache Management System

Pros:

- Caching is out of control in some areas and infringing on other users by blocking trails
- Cached boats are an eyesore
- Many boats are decrepit and need to be removed
- Boat caches are important to the tourism industry and they minimize risk of spreading invasive species
- Management system will create accountability and encourage responsible use
- Fees should go to boat removal. Removal of registered boat at owners expense if problem
- Create database of all cached boats
- Limit the number of boats cached at certain locations
- Determine problem areas and address each accordingly

Cons:

- Few areas where it is a problem
- Caches do not hinder users of waterways
- Canoeists should get used to seeing cached boats
- Boat caches enable the elderly and disabled to fish lakes
- Boat caches allow tourist outfitters to easily bring clients into lakes
- Divert fishing pressure from busier lakes
- Crown land should be for everyone's use
- Voluntary Management - place boats out of way where they don't block portages
- Management System will be too costly and not self sufficient

Prohibit Boat Caching:

- Motorized vehicles needed to reach boats and bring them in
- Motorized boats create more fishing pressure on lakes
- Make it difficult to portage and take up valuable loading/unloading room
- Destroy wilderness integrity of portage and are very unsightly

Crown Land and Conservation Reserve Visitor Management System

Pros:

- MNR Should Maintain Strong Role as they are accountable and already enforce laws and regulations
- Permits and User Fees are necessary tools
- Integrated backcountry permit for all three land designations and will create consistency throughout planning area
- First Nations should be exempt from fees
- Seasonal permits at discounted prices
- Maintaining portages would promote use of alternative routes

Cons:

- Our taxes should pay for our use of Crown land
- Crown land is meant for all people to use

- Using this land is the heritage of local people who are not visitors
- Land is already governed by Acts and Regs.
- Lack of Money and Resources - MNR cannot afford current systems and current laws are not being enforced
- Policing would cost more than fees would generate
- Voluntary Management - those seeking solitude will use less travelled areas spreading out the users
- Insufficient data on number of users in the area - would first need to determine carrying capacity of the area before management system was put in place
- Allow for a 10 person maximum group size

Manage/Prohibit ATV use of existing portage trails on Crown land and within Conservation Reserves

Pros:

- ATVs cause environmental damage and are a safety concern for those portaging
- ATVs infringe on wilderness integrity of area and represent freezer-filling hunting and fishing practices
- They are noisy and produce greenhouse gas emissions
- Protect Nastawgan - should be protected based on their cultural significance
- There are hundreds of kilometres of roads available to ride
- Complete ban is less confusing and avoids people claiming ignorance
- Ban should be in place on hiking and ski trails also
- ATVs need their own system of trails to ride - need to identify and sign all ATV trails
- Allow ATV use when not in conflict with others
- There is no reason for ATVs to be near canoe routes
- Fees and permits issued similar to snowmobiles

Cons:

- What conflicts? Very few exist
- Many portage trails old logging and mining roads
- Prohibition will upset a major user group
- Enable old and disabled to enjoy backcountry areas
- Important safety feature in the backcountry
- ATV users clear portage trails
- Fastest growing sport in NE Ontario, generates revenue for local economy
- Public land - Public use
- TLUP identifies where ATVs are allowed - in IMAs and existing use in SMAs. TIP not supposed to change TLUP
- Areas of concern/conflict need to be identified
- Supply alternate access to lakes and additional riding opportunities
- Rules should apply to ATV use

Aircraft Landing in Provincial Parks

Designated lakes only:

- Aircraft have been going into Park for a long time
- Why do we need more restrictions?
- There is no problem or conflict with aircraft
- Aids the tourism industry

- Allow elderly to visit backcountry lakes
- Aircraft don't cause environmental damage
- Provides revenue for Parks
- Restrict to headwater lakes
- Restrict to certain lakes and certain times of day
- Selective landing and takeoff spots

Prohibit Aircraft Landing:
- Should be no motorized access in wilderness class park
- If no boats, ATVs, snowmobiles then no planes
- There are many other lakes for planes to fly into
- A complete ban is easier and cheaper to enforce
- No boat caches will be needed at fly-in lakes

No Change:
- None of the options are acceptable
- Not a problem
- No change from current status
- Equal user rights
- Further restrictions will require further consultation

Future Use of the former Liskeard Lumber Road in Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park

Create Access Zone for entire length of park:
- Respect historical significance
- Allows elderly and disabled access to the park
- Park should be for all user groups to enjoy
- Locals have a right to use the Park
- Need access to Crown land south of Park
- Need access to lakes in Park for fishing by snowmobile and ATV
- Important safety feature
- Road would be needed for fighting fires
- Continue to gate during summer season
- Additional access off main road is needed
- Rebuild bridge and maintain road
- TLUP provides seasonal access to Jim Edwards, this process was not supposed to change that

Winter Access:
- Allow Snowmobiles
- Snowmobiles do not cause environmental damage and do not destroy trails
- There are no canoeists in the winter
- Park is a week's snowshoe from nearest ploughed access point
- Need winter access for ice fishing access

Shorten Road and Provide Staging Area within Park:
- There should be no road in a wilderness class park
- All activities, access and uses in a wilderness park should be consistent with the protocols established by Ontario Parks

- Allow an uninterrupted wilderness experience while not creating a lengthy portage
- Remove the road south of the staging point.

Close Road:
- A park is a park
- It is not used for forestry and should be abandoned at the park border
- Road creates access for ATVs, conflicts with other values, and cause significant environmental damage
- Road should have been closed when logging stopped
- Reduce impacts of fishing and hunting
- Enhance and preserve wilderness character of park

Motorboat Use in Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park

Within Access Zones
- Need motorized access on lakes due to aging population
- Need motorboat access to Smoothwater Lake
- Motor size restrictions would stop erosion
- Existing commercial operators should be permitted to continue in order to support their businesses, no private motorboats

Prohibit
- Boats have many lakes to enjoy but few wilderness areas
- One rule for all motorized users
- Minimize risk of invasive species
- Enhance/preserve wilderness character
- Reduce impacts of fishing and hunting

No Change
- No Restrictions are appropriate - no change from current status
- Need motorized access on lakes due to aging population
- Not many boats in the Park
- General public should be treated the same as commercial operators
- One rule – open it up or close it down

ATV Use within Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park

Management System:
- No restrictions are appropriate - no change from current status
- No conflicts in north end of park
- Allow elderly and disabled access to the park
- Discriminates against one user group
- Where are the proposed access zones – need more info
- ATVs are important to locals and many stakeholders
- ATVs are big business in the north, economic boost to communities
- Limit number of access zones
- Limiting number of crossings will reduce ATV network
- Need ATV access to current fishing lakes
- More loop trails are needed

Prohibit

- Not compatible with a wilderness park
- Less motorized use the better
- Minimize fishing pressure
- TLUP says these are roadless non mechanized travel areas
- ATVs cause environmental damage to trails and conflict with non-motorized users
- Safety concern on portages
- Leads to over fishing and hunting
- Encourage people to travel by foot and canoe for the health of themselves and of the planet
- Restrict to a finite trail network outside of all PP lands
- One rule across the board - easier to enforce

No Change

- No restrictions are appropriate
- No change from current status
- No conflicts in north end of park
- Many trails are old forestry and mining roads

Commercial LUPs within the Provincial Parks

Phase Out

- Parks are for wilderness users without motorized vehicles
- Commercial LUPs should not be benefiting from the protection of park policy
- No different from private LUPs they should be removed along with garbage and boat caches
- Prefer phase out similar to Algonquin
- One rule for all
- LUPs with motorized vehicles should be phased out
- Should be phased out over a number of years so the park can be the nature refuge it is intended to be

No Change

- LUP holders take good care of their property and clean up campsites
- Tourism is required to support our economy
- Commercial operators were there before the park and need help to survive
- Private LUPs should be permitted to continue also
- Passed onto family members only, not sold or transferred
- Grandfather current LUPs with no new permits issued

14.2 Aboriginal Consultation

Aboriginal consultation has been an important component of the TIP Process. Local First Nation communities have representation on the TIP planning team and have participated throughout the planning process. First Nation planning team members were able to bring the comments and concerns of their respective communities directly to planning team meetings. In addition, community open houses have been held at Matachewan and Temagami First Nations where planning team members had the opportunity to hear comments and answer questions. Open houses were held at the community of Matachewan First Nation and on Bear Island with Temagami First Nation during the

Background Information stage. During the Management Options stage, a second set of public meetings was held at Bear Island. With their agreement, Matachewan First Nation was invited to attend the public meetings in Elk Lake. A third series of public meetings is planned for the release of the Preliminary Management Plans.

Temagami First Nation has shown interest in participating in a maintenance partnership. A maintenance partnership is discussed in the Crown Land Recreation and Conservation Reserve Management Plans as an option to implement maintenance of recreational facilities such as campsites and portages. This potential partnership will continue to be explored during the implementation stage of the TIP process.

Temagami First Nation has also expressed desire that the TIP process not affect land claim negotiations. As is stated in the Aboriginal Context section, communications and negotiations will take place without prejudice to any ongoing or future discussions or negotiations between the government of Ontario and these aboriginal communities.

Matachewan First Nation has shown continued support for their neighbours in and around the community of Elk Lake. They do not want to see any further restrictions placed on the land base.

15.0 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Access Point: A site, usually along or at the end of a road, used to gain access to backcountry areas. Access points take the form of trailheads, boat launches, road pullouts and water crossings. Typically for the Temagami area, access points enable water access by boat or canoe to recreational resources such as canoe routes, angling lakes, cottages and hunting areas.

Adaptive Management: A practical approach to improving resource management. This approach means that there is a process in place for implementing resource management decisions, monitoring and evaluating the outcomes, and using the information to continually improve management direction.

Backcountry: A term usually applied to wilderness areas where there are no permanent access roads, developments or settlements. Camping facilities are generally primitive (fire pit, tent pads, pit privy) and few other facilities exist.

Boat Cache: A temporary or indeterminate storage site for boats/canoes adjacent to a water body. Typically boat caches are found at the "far end" of portages, enabling anglers to access lakes by foot or ATV which do not have direct vehicle access. Other boat caches are found on lakes which are typically accessed only by aircraft.

Crown Land: Land vested in Her Majesty in right of Ontario.

Crown Land Use Policy Atlas: the official source of area-specific land use policy for Crown lands in a large part of Ontario (OLL planning area plus Manitoulin Island).The Atlas brings together all the area-specific land use policies for Crown lands into one source location. Users can view the specific policies for any given area and a map of its boundaries. Land use information is found in simple, consistent report style that is specific to each separate land use area. All future area-specific land use planning for Crown lands will be undertaken as amendments to the Atlas.

Daki Menan: The area considered the ancestral homeland of the Teme Augama Anishnabai. Today, this area is considered synonymous with the area covered in the Temagami Land Claim.

Ecodistrict: An ecological landscape unit defined by subregional patterns of landforms, physiography, and topography. These physical factors result in modifications of local climate, abiotic landscape complexity and configuration, distribution of dominant surficial and soil materials, vegetation distribution and productivity. Ontario's 14 ecoregions are subdivided into 71 ecodistricts. Ecodistricts are usually several thousand square kilometers in size.

Ecoregion: A large ecological landscape unit that captures major subdivisions of Ontario, primarily identified by sub-continental climatic regimes. Ecoregions identify broad abiotic factors such as temperature and precipitation that influence patterns of primary productivity, biotic distribution, and soil development. Within Ontario there are 14 different ecoregions, ranging from the Hudson Bay Lowlands to the Carolinian Forest. Their sizes range from hundreds of thousands to tens of thousands of square kilometers.

Ecosite: A site-specific ecological landscape unit comprised of relatively uniform geology, parent materials, soils, topography, and hydrology, occupied by consistent complexes of dominant overstorey and understorey vegetation Ecosites range from less than one hectare to hundreds of hectares in size.

Endangered Species: Any indigenous species of flora or fauna whose existence in Canada is at risk of immediate extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range due to the actions of humans.

Implementation Plan: A subsidiary planning document which takes direction from the park management plan. These plans deal with specific issues such as resource stewardship, park operations or development. They provide more detail to *implement* specific activities within a park as directed by an approved management plan. Examples include cultural resources management, emergency plans, recreation management, fisheries, research, vegetation management, facility development and so on.

Interim Management Statement (IMS): An interim document used to guide park management until a full park management plan can be undertaken. An IMS is typically a concise document, often based upon minimal information. Its main focus is protecting park values and ensuring public safety.

Land Use Permit (LUP): A permit to occupy a specific site on Crown land for a specific purpose. It does not convey any right, title or interest in the resource being occupied. A *Commercial Land Use Permit* allows for commercial uses of the site to generate income. These typically consist of remote outpost camps that provide overnight accommodation for clients engaged in resource based activities such as hunting, fishing or dog sledding. A *Private Recreational Land Use Permit* allows the construction and use of a cottage or "camp" for private (non-commercial) recreational activities.

Licence of Occupation: A permit to occupy, similar to an LUP, but generally for longer time periods (e.g., 40 years). These are generally used in such cases as the flooding of land due to water control structures.

Park Classification: No individual park can be all things to all people. Park classification organizes parks into broad categories, each with particular purposes and characteristics, as well as distinctive planning and management policies. There are six classes of park within Ontario's provincial park system: Wilderness, Nature Reserve, Historic, Natural Environment, Waterway and Recreation. The five parks included in the Temagami Integrated Planning process are Wilderness and Waterway class parks.

Park Zoning: The land base within a park is zoned on the basis of resource significance and recreational potential. Thus, a park's land and water resources are allocated based upon their significance for protection or their potential for recreation and development. In this manner, park lands and waters can be allocated to their most appropriate role in each park.

There are six possible zone types that can be applied during the management planning process. Depending on its classification, provincial parks may contain the following zones: Nature Reserve, Wilderness, Natural Environment, Historical, Access and Development. Not all zones are applicable in all classes of parks. Planning and

management policies appropriate to each type of zone are applied consistently throughout the parks system.

Protected Area: Lands and waters with defined boundaries established primarily to protect natural and cultural heritage features. These areas are protected by legislation, regulation or policy to control human use, occupancy or activity. Within Ontario, these typically include provincial parks and conservation reserves.

Provincial Park: A protected area regulated under the *Provincial Parks Act*. Provincial parks are established to ensure that features representing the most significant aspect of Ontario's natural and cultural history are protected—now, and for future generations. Ontario's system of parks strives to meet four key objectives: protection, heritage appreciation, recreation, and tourism.

Management Plan/Resource Management Plan: By policy, the management of provincial parks or conservation reserves is directed through Park Management Plans, Statements of Conservation Interest, or Resource Management Plans. These plans or statements provide strategic direction for the use and management of the landscapes/ecosystems being protected.

Park Management Plan: A document which defines the long-term protection, management and use of a provincial park. Management plans provide overall guidance in accordance with provincial policies.

Temagami Area: The area defined in the 1997 *Temagami Land Use Plan*. This includes most of the entire former Temagami District as well as a small portion of Kirkland Lake District to the north of Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park. Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park and Makobe Grays Ice Margin CR both lie within Kirkland Lake District. It also includes a portion in the southwest corner that was formerly part of the Sudbury District which was added to the Temagami Area of North Bay District in 1997.

Temagami Land Use Plan (TLUP): The Temagami Area Comprehensive Planning Program was initiated in 1989 as a model of land use management planning. Approved in 1997, *TLUP* designates specific land use zones and provides direction for the use and management of resources within each zone. This land use plan makes specific references to area provincial parks, adjacent conservation reserves, special management areas and the development of a recreation plan for the Temagami area.

Waterway Park: A class of provincial park which incorporates outstanding recreational water routes with representative natural features and historical resources to provide high quality recreational and educational experiences.

Wilderness Park: A class of provincial park of substantial area where the forces of nature are permitted to function freely and where visitors travel by non-mechanized means and experience expansive solitude, challenge and personal integration with nature.

16.0 REFERENCES

Provincial Park Management Planning

OMNR, 2006. *Temagami Integrated Planning: Management Options*
OMNR, 2005. *Temagami Integrated Planning: Background Information*
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Ontario Parks (SARO list): www.ontarioparks.com/english/sar.html
Royal Ontario Museum-MNR: www.rom.on.ca/ontario/risk.php
Natural Heritage Information Centre: www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/nhic/nhic.cfm
COSEWIC: www.cosewic.gc.ca
Federal Species at Risk: http://www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca/default_e.cfm

APPENDIX A: MAPS

Five tabloid–size fold-out maps are included with this document:

- Map 1 shows the provincial park boundaries and the relationship of all five parks in context with the surrounding area
- Maps 2, 3 and 4 depict the zoning and key features within each park
- Map 5 highlights existing and proposed development pertaining to recreation and tourism in the five parks

APPENDIX B: TEMAGAMI AREA – CAMPING ETHICS FOR BACKCOUNTRY TRAVEL FACT SHEET

Developed by park staff, this fact sheet highlights key points to consider when travelling in Temagami's backcountry—both inside and outside of parks—in order to have a safe trip as well as to help preserve Temagami's natural resources and remote wilderness experience.

The maps and the Fact Sheet are included as separate PDF files on the Ontario Parks website for ease of downloading. Please follow the link at:

http://www.ontarioparks.com/english/tema_planning.html

MAP 1 - PARK BOUNDARIES

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

Ontario

Legend

- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park

0 2 4 6 8 Kilometers

Elk Lake

MAKOBE GRAYS RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

MAKOBE GRAYS ICE MARGIN CONSERVATION RESERVE (C 1605)

Former Lakeshore Lumber Road

East Lake Road

LADY EVELYN SMOOTH WATER PROVINCIAL PARK

SMITH LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR55)

Decommissioned Unmaintained Road

Impossible

JIM EDWARDS LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR52)

EAST LADY EVELYN LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR42)

SUGAR LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR43)

NORTH YORSTON CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR53)

SOLACE PROVINCIAL PARK

PINETORCH LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR50)

BOB LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR44)

OBABIKA PROVINCIAL PARK

STURGEON RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

MAP 1 - PARK BOUNDARIES

ONTARIO PARKS

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

Legend

- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park

Ontario

0 2 4 6 8 Kilometers

Elk Lake

MAKOBE - GRAYS RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

MAKOBE GRAYS ICE MARGIN CONSERVATION RESERVE (C1608)

Former Liskeard Lumber Road

Cook Lake Road

LADY EVELYN - SMOOTHWATER PROVINCIAL PARK

SMITH LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR56)

Decommissioned Unmaintained Road

Impassible

EAST LADY EVELYN LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR32)

SUGAR LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR33)

JIM EDWARDS LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR62)

NORTH YORSTON CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR63)

SOLACE PROVINCIAL PARK

PINETORCH LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR60)

BOB LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR44)

OBABIKA PROVINCIAL PARK

STURGEON RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

MAP 2 - ZONING

ONTARIO PARKS

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

Elk Lake

NE1

NE1

A5

A5s

Former Liskeard Lumber Road

Cook Lake Road

Legend

- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Bush Road / Trail
- River / Stream
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Natural Environment Zone (NE)
- Wilderness Zone (W)
- Nature Reserve Zone (NR)
- Access Zone (A)
- Seasonal Access Zones (A1s, A2s, A5s)
- Conservation Reserve

0 2 4 6 Kilometers

Ontario

MAP 2 - ZONING

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

Elk Lake

NE1

NE1

A5

A5s

Former Liskeard Lumber Road

Cobalt Lake Road

Legend

- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Boat Road - Trail
- River / Stream
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Natural Environment Zone (NE)
- Wilderness Zone (W)
- Nature Reserve Zone (NR)
- Access Zone (A)
- Seasonal Access Zones (A1s, A2s, A5s)
- Conservation Reserve

0 2 4 8 Kilometers

Ontario

MAP 3 - ZONING

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

Legend

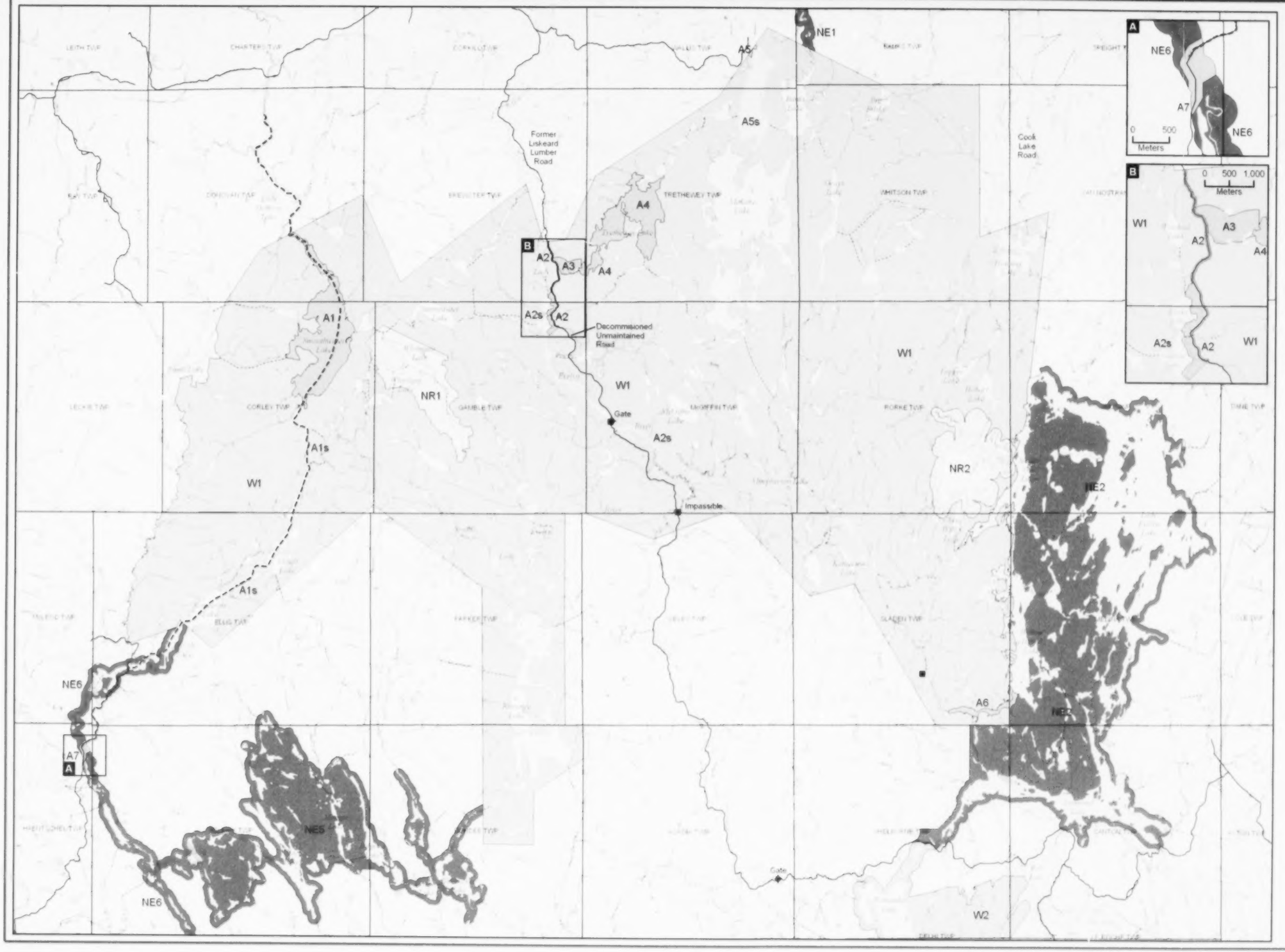
- Bridge
- Gate
- Patrol
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Bush Road - Trail
- River - Stream
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Natural Environment Zone (NE)
- Wilderness Zone (W)
- Nature Reserve Zone (NR)
- Access Zone (A)
- Seasonal Access Zones (A1s, A2s, A7s)
- Conservation Reserve

0 4 Kilometers

Ontario

MAP 3 - ZONING

Temagami Area Provincial Parks



Legend

- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Bush Road / Trail
- River / Stream
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Natural Environment Zone (NE)
- Wilderness Zone (W)
- Nature Reserve Zone (NR)
- Access Zone (A)
- Seasonal Access Zones (A1s, A2s, A5s)
- Conservation Reserve

0 2 4 6 Kilometers

Ontario

MAP 4 - ZONING

Temagami Area
Provincial
Parks

Legend

- Bridge
- Falls
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Bush Road / Trail
- River / Stream
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Natural Environment Zone (NE)
- Wilderness Zone (W)
- Nature Reserve Zone (NR)
- Access Zone (A)
- Conservation Reserve

0 2 4 6 Kilometers

Ontario

MAP 4 - ZONING

ONTARIO PARKS

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

NE6
A7
NE5
NE6
NE6
NE6
A6
NE2
Gate
W2
NE3
W2
NE4
Gate
NE6
NE4
A
A8
NE6
A
0 500
Meters
NE6
A8
NE6

Legend

- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Road
- Bush Road / Trail
- River / Stream
- Township
- Water
- Wetland
- Natural Environment Zone (NE)
- Wilderness Zone (W)
- Nature Reserve Zone (NR)
- Access Zone (A)
- Conservation Reserve

0 2 4 6 Kilometers

Ontario

MAP 5 - RECREATION AND TOURISM - EXISTING AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Temagami Area Provincial Parks

Ontario

Legend

- Township
- Water
- Access Zone
- Seasonal Access Zone
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- Fire Tower
- Commercial LUP
- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Canoe Route
- Hiking Trail
- Road

SMITH LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (C.R.R.)
BM EDWARDS LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (C.R.R.)
PENETANG LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (C.R.R.)
EAST LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (C.R.R.)
BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (C.R.R.)
BLUE LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (C.R.R.)

MAP 5 - RECREATION AND TOURISM - EXISTING AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Temagami Area
Provincial Parks

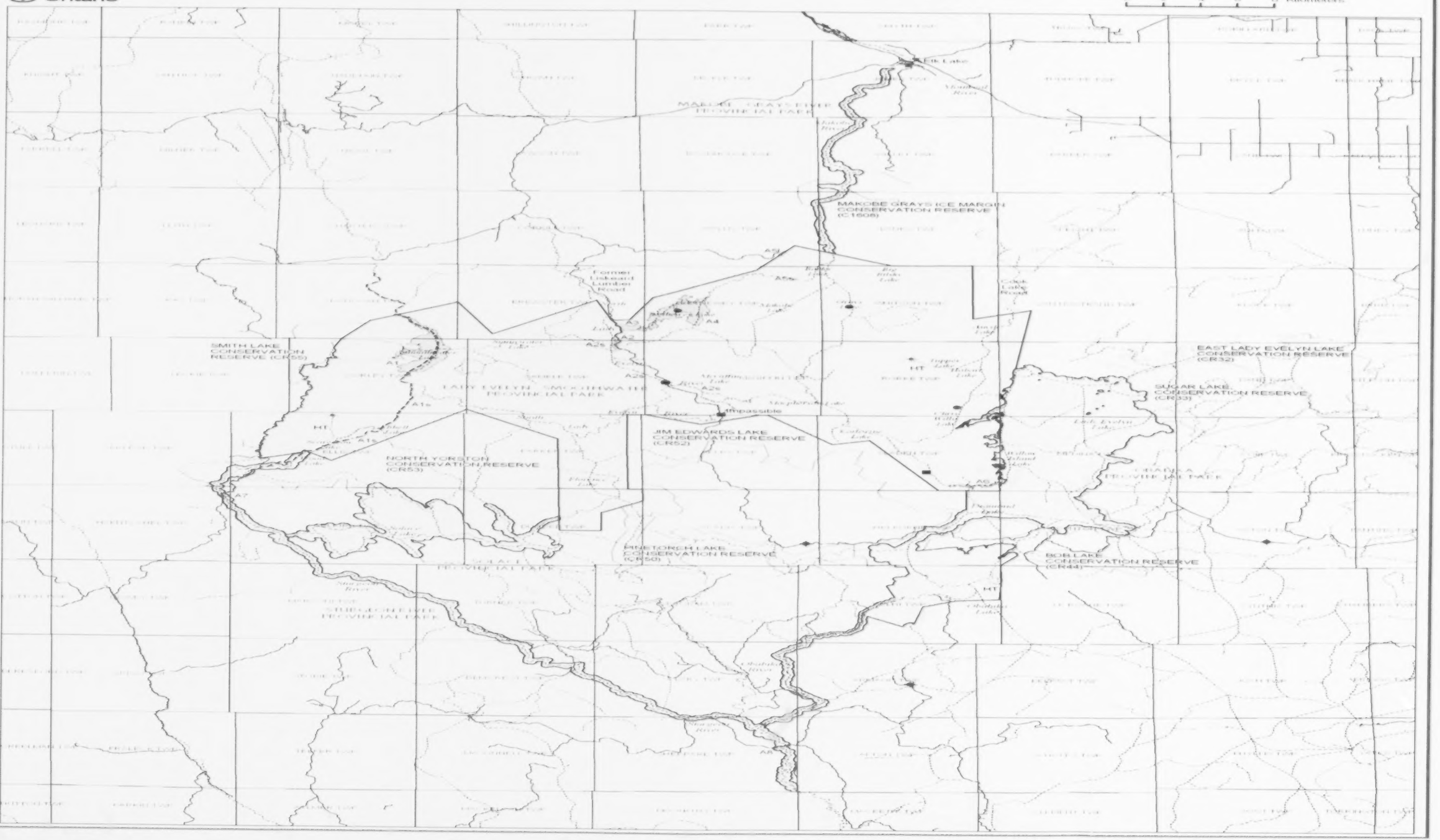
Ontario

Legend

- Township
- Water
- A2 Access Zone
- A2s Seasonal Access Zone
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- Fire Tower
- Commercial LUP
- Bridge
- Gate
- Patent
- Snowmobile Trail
- Portage
- Canoe Route
- HT Hiking Trail
- Road

0 2 4 6 8 Kilometers

Ontario


MAKOBE GRAYS ICE MARGIN CONSERVATION RESERVE (C.1606)
Former Lisbeard Lumber Road
SMITH LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR55)
LADY EVELYN - SMOOTHWATER PROVINCIAL PARK
Timpassible
JIM EDWARDS LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR52)
NORTH YORSTON CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR53)
PINETORCH LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR50)
Cook Lake Road
EAST LADY EVELYN LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR32)
SUGAR LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR33)
BOB LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE (CR44)
HT

ONTARIO PARKS

Fact Sheet

Temagami Area
Camping Ethics for Backcountry Travel

Temagami is known for rugged scenery and abundant waterways. As more people travel in the Wilderness and Waterway parks or on Crown land, it becomes increasingly important to help protect our backcountry. Our presence can result in negative impacts on vegetation, wildlife, water quality and on other travellers. By using sound wilderness skills and a "leave no trace" ethic, you can have a safe, enjoyable trip while preserving Temagami for future generations.

Planning
Research your trip so that you are familiar with the route and with provincial regulations. Overnight camping permits are required in Temagami area provincial parks. Keep your party size to 9 or fewer people. Many campsites cannot accommodate larger numbers without serious damage. Small groups travel more quietly, with less disturbance for other users. Prepare carefully, bringing proper equipment for the water and weather conditions you will encounter. Bring maps, a compass and a first aid kit, and know how to use them! Leave an itinerary with a responsible person so that, if you are overdue, searchers will know where to start looking.

Proper food planning can make your trip more enjoyable and reduces the potential for litter to be left behind. Avoid cans and glass containers. Your pack will be lighter, and you won't have to worry about breakage. Repackage food in plastic bags and containers, leaving excess packaging at home where it can be recycled. When preparing your menu, add enough food for one or two extra days in case you are delayed by weather or an emergency.

Travelling
Use only existing trails and portages. Avoid widening trails by walking single file in the middle of the trail, even if it is wet or muddy. Skirting around these areas only makes the problem worse. Do not block portages, access points or launch ramps with boats, canoes or equipment. On lakes where boat traffic is encountered, canoeists should stay close to shore, enabling boats to navigate safely around them. Remember—"rules of the road" apply on waterways too—do not block channels.

Your Campsite
Use only existing campsites. Set up your tents only in areas previously cleared. Think of how your use may cause damage to vegetation, soil compaction or erosion. Do not dig trenches around your tent. Do not deface trees with axe marks, nails, or by building "camp furniture". Note that in the five backcountry provincial parks, your maximum group size per campsite is 9 people.

Campfires
Use a lightweight camp stove to reduce fire hazards and to save firewood. If a fire is necessary, keep it small and use existing fire pits. It will be easier to control and uses less wood. Use only dead wood for your campfire, preferably collected away from your campsite.

Let your fire burn down to ashes. Drown your fire thoroughly with water. Stir the ashes and add more water. Remove any bits of unburned garbage and pack them out. ***Do not build a fire if it is windy, or if a Fire Restriction is in effect. Fire Restrictions may be declared during times of extremely high fire hazard, making it illegal to have a fire for any purpose, including cooking.***

Smoking
Sit down to smoke, being careful with burning ashes or embers. Extinguish butts and pack them out.

Sanitation and Waste Disposal
Treat all drinking water to prevent contracting *Giardia* or other waterborne parasites and diseases. Use a water filter, iodine, or boil water for at least five minutes. Prevent water contamination by using a dishpan for all washing and rinsing—both for your dishes and yourself. Use only biodegradable soap, and dump waste water at least 50 metres away from water bodies.

Human waste scattered on trails and campsites is a major concern in the Temagami area. Use properly installed privies, located at least 50 metres from open water, campsites and trails. If no privy is available, dig a small hole 10 to 15 cm deep in the active soil layer, following the 50-metre rule above. Use single-ply toilet paper and bury everything completely. Since they do not decompose readily, all other sanitary products should be triple-bagged in plastic and packed out with your garbage. Please ensure all members in your group are aware of proper toilet and sanitation practices.

Practice the "pack it in, pack it out" philosophy. Burn all paper, and carry out everything else in a bag. With proper planning and repackaging of food, you should have a minimum of garbage to begin with. Do not bury your garbage—wildlife will just dig it up when you leave! The same goes for leftover food.

Anglers—do not dispose of fish remains in the water. Leave out on rocks in open areas, where birds can scavenge them. Do this well away from campsites and trails to prevent attracting bears.

Help Keep the Wildlife Wild
Avoid disturbing wildlife, especially young animals or nesting birds. Do not feed wildlife since this interferes with their natural habits. To keep your food and garbage secure from raccoons and black bears, pack it securely and hang your pack between trees, at least 6 metres above the ground. Do not bring food or snacks into your tent!

Do not pick edible wild foods, since wildlife depends on them to nurture their young and to build up reserves for the cold winter ahead. Do not remove plants, historical artifacts or other natural objects.

Follow all fishing regulations. Hunters, follow all hunting regulations on Crown land and other restrictions within parks. If travelling with pets, keep them under control to prevent them from harassing wildlife or bothering other campers. Dispose of their waste as you would your own.

Before You Leave...
Take a last check before leaving your campsite or lunch spot. Is that fire completely out? Have you packed **all** garbage, including twist ties, cigarette butts, or aluminum foil left in the fire pit? Is there any equipment left, such as clotheslines? Help clean up other's mistakes—pack out anything left behind.

Individual responsibility is important. Each person travelling in Temagami's backcountry can play a part in its stewardship. Help protect this wonderful landscape for a return visit and for future generations!

For More Information
Temagami Canoe Routes—Planning Map, MNR publication #5934. Map shows canoe routes, campsites and brief descriptions of 23 routes (available from Finlayson Point Provincial Park for $5.00 plus tax).

Minimum Impact Camping—A Basic Guide by Curt Schatz and Dan Seemon, Adventure Publications Inc., Cambridge, MN, 1994.

Soft Paths—How to Enjoy the Wilderness Without Harming It by Bruce Hampton and David Cole, National Outdoor Leadership School, Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, PA,1988. Revised 1995.

Canoeing, Kayaking & Hiking Temagami by Hap Wilson, Boston Mills Press, Erin ON, 2004

For more information about provincial parks in the Temagami area, contact Ontario Parks at:
Finlayson Point Provincial Park
Box 38 Temagami, ON P0H 2H0
(705) 569-3205 Fax (705) 569-2886 *Également disponible en français*

Visit the Ontario Parks website at www.ontarioparks.com NEZ/TA 003 rev8/04rt